

331234-773
45001125

JOE WORKER *and*

The **S T O R Y** *of* **L A B O R**

• **DRAMATIC!**

• **THRILLING!**

• **48 PAGES OF
ADVENTURE
COMICS**



**The mighty JOE WORKER, hero of
Labor, goes marching down the ages!**

National Labor Service, U. S. A.

by
NAT SCHACHNER
and
WICK ALBERMAN

FOREWORD

HERE is the STORY of LABOR in America — dramatic! important! thrill-packed! more exciting than any adventure novel!

Join the millions of Americans who have always wanted to know the real, true story of Labor and Labor Unions in this country. Why did Captain John Smith's Colony fail? Who were the Sons of Liberty? When did the first labor union start? What part did Labor play in the fight for free education? What was the Know-Nothing Party? What was the difference between the First and the Second Ku Klux Klan? Who was Samuel Gompers? What did the Knights of Labor want?

NRA . . . NLRB . . . FEPC . . . AFL . . . CIO . . . do you know what these letters stand for? What is Labor fighting for now?

All the answers — and, plenty more — can be found in this color-splashed, dialogued series of comic strips, with peppy explanatory text.

When you have finished this great story, you will have a new understanding and a new pride in the history of the American worker and his fight for better conditions, for a world free of intolerance and prejudice, for a world of decency and unity.

A book for every American — regardless of race, color or creed.

THE TRICK OF SETTING WORKER AGAINST WORKER STARTED WAY BACK. THE IDEA WAS TO KEEP COMMON MEN OF DIFFERENT TRIBES AND TONGUES DIVIDED AND ENSLAVED. KING NIMROD OF ANCIENT BABEL TRIED THIS, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK—HE EVEN LOST HIS OWN KINGDOM. THE CENTURIES HAVE TAUGHT LABOR THE GREAT LESSON—ONLY IN UNION IS THERE STRENGTH. SO TODAY ALL AMERICAN WORKERS, NATIVE BORN AND FOREIGN, CHRISTIAN AND JEW, WHITE AND NEGRO, TOGETHER MARCH FORWARD.

JOE
WORKER



YOU MUST FINISH THIS TOWER OF BABEL SOON OUR ENEMIES ARE GATHERING, BUT I FEAR REVOLT IN THIS CONOURSE OF WORKER SLAVES!

FEAR NOT GREAT NIMROD! THEY ARE OF MANY

TONGUES AND I'VE STIRRED MUCH MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THEM!



YOU DIRTY ELAMITE! WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM!

YOURS IS A BARBAROUS TONGUE, YOU FILTHY CHALDEAN!

WHY DO YOU FIGHT? ARE YOU NOT BOTH WORKERS?



MY PLANS WORK! NIMROD NEED FEAR NO REVOLT FROM THESE FOOLS!

TAKE THAT YOU ISRAELITE!

HELP ME!

HEY! GET TO WORK! THE ASSYRIANS ARE COMING!



MY OVERSEER WAS A FOOL! HAD MY WORKERS STUCK TOGETHER...

ALAS! NOW I AM WORSE OFF THAN BEFORE!



YOU WOULD NOT HEED ME THEN, BUT SOME DAY WE WORKERS WILL UNITE AND SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE!

JOE WORKER WAS A TRUE PROPHET, IN 1945 ... IN A WAR PLANT...

ATTA BOY, IZZY! YOU'RE DOING SWELL!

KEEP 'EM ROLLING GEORGE!

IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH TO LICK ALL KINDS OF TYRANTS!



WHEW! THERE'RE THOUSANDS LIKE US IN THE AIR!

YEAH! THOSE FELLOWS BACK HOME ARE SURE DOING A JOB!

BOMBS AWAY!



The STORY of LABOR

The S T O R Y of L A B O R



**JOE
WORKER**

RULERS DIDN'T CHANGE MUCH DOWN THE CENTURIES AFTER KING MIMROD. IN THE MIDDLE AGES MOST WORKERS WERE SERFS TIED TO THE FEUDAL MANOR. LATER THE PRODUCERS OF GOODS TRIED THE GUILD SYSTEM AND FROM THE 12TH TO THE 15TH CENTURIES CRAFT AND MERCHANT GUILDS FLOURISHED. BUT THESE ORGANIZATIONS WERE MONOPOLIES AND PERMITTED NO COMPETITION. SO, IN THE 16TH CENTURY, THE CAPITALIST COMPETITIVE SYSTEM REPLACED THE GUILDS. BUT TIMES WERE HARD IN THE 17TH CENTURY AND MANY WORKERS AND "GENTLEMEN" CAME FROM EUROPE IN SEARCH OF A NEW WORLD.

IN VIRGINIA, 1607

LET THE COMMON FOLK DIG AND SWEAT. THAT'S WHAT GOD MADE THEM FOR!

**GOLD!
I FOUND
IT! WE
ARE
RICH!**



BUT CAPT. JOHN SMITH KNOWS IT'S A GOLD BRICK...

THAT'S WORTHLESS ROCK! THE ONLY GOLD IN VIRGINIA WILL COME FROM THE SWEAT OF YOUR BROW AND THE HEAVE OF YOUR BACK!

WORK? THAT'S BENEATH A GENTLEMAN... I WON'T!



BUT HE DID... FOR CAPTAIN SMITH HELD A GUN ON HIM...

OW! MY HAND'S BLISTERED! I'LL REPORT YOU TO ENGLAND FOR THIS, CAPTAIN SMITH!

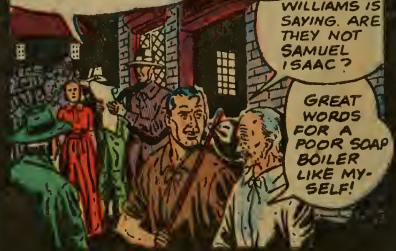
**REPORT AWAY!
THOSE WHO
DON'T WORK
DON'T EAT!**



BUT THE GENTLEMEN FORCED SMITH'S RECALL, SO JOE WORKER IN DISGUST WENT TO RHODE ISLAND...

ALL MEN OF WHATEVER NATION ARE WELCOME HERE, BE THEY PAPISTS OR PROTESTANTS, JEWS OR TURKS!

THOSE ARE GREAT WORDS, ROGER WILLIAMS IS SAYING. ARE THEY NOT SAMUEL ISAAC?



GREAT WORDS FOR A POOR SOAP BOILER LIKE MYSELF!

IT'S GOOD TO BE IN A PLACE WHERE A MAN CAN CALL HIS WORK HIS OWN!

AND HIS SOUL, TOO! THE VERY AIR SMELLS OF LIBERTY!



**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
IF THERE BE ANY POOR AMONG YE, COME TO THE COUNCIL AND YE SHALL BE FED!**

**DO YOU HEAR THAT, JED?
DON'T HE KNOW THERE ARE NO POOR IN NEWPORT?**



THERE WAS PLenty TO BE DONE IN EARLY AMERICA. MOST OF THE WORK WAS DONE BY WHITE SLAVES CALLED "INDENTURED SERVANTS" WHO, UNLIKE THE BLACK SLAVES, WERE BOUND FOR FIVE TO TEN YEARS INSTEAD OF FOR LIFE. IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO ABOLISH WHITE INDENTURES AND STILL LONGER TO GET RID OF NEGRO SLAVERY. . .

JOE WORKER



A LONDON WHARF IN 1674...

THEY SAY A MAN CAN MAKE A LIVING IN THE NEW WORLD, CAPTAIN. BUT HOW'LL WE GET THERE? WE'VE NO MONEY TO PAY FOR OUR PASSAGE!

YE DON'T HAVE TUH WORRY, MATEY JES' SIGN THIS HERE INDENTURE, AN' IT'S HEY FER AMERICA AN' YER FORTUNE!



.. BUT WHEN THEY LANDED IN VIRGINIA THEY FOUND THINGS DIFFERENT...

WHAT AM I OFFERED FOR THIS FINE FAMILY? SEVEN YEAR INDENTURE.

WHY BEN! WE'RE BEING SOLD JUST LIKE THAT POOR BLACK FELLOW!

NON-SENSE, MY DEAR, WE'RE WHITE PEOPLE HE'S ONLY A SLAVE!



HE WAS WRONG! WHITE AND BLACK WERE BOTH SLAVES....

FASTER, YE LAZY DOGS! TOBACCO SPOILS QUICK!

HEY! I'M NO SLAVE YOU CAN BEAT!

YES, YOU ARE! SON SO ARE WE ALL, UNTIL...



UNTIL NATHANIEL BACON CAME ALONG...

YOUR SUFFERINGS ARE INTOLERABLE. YOU MUST UNITE IF YOU WISH TO BE FREE!

I'M A FREE WORKER! I DON'T UNITE WITH NO INDENTS.

ME! I'LL JOIN WITH EVERY MAN FOR LIBERTY!



DOESN'T THAT MEAN NEGROES TOO, BEN?

WE'VE WON, MEN. FROM NOW ON, AMERICA WILL BE A LAND OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY!

MEBBE SO, NATHANIEL, BUT I'M A-FRAID IT WON'T HAPPEN SO FAST!



JOE WORKER WAS RIGHT... FOR WHEN BACON TOOK SICK, THE WHOLE MOVEMENT COLLAPSED

I'M SORRY, MEN. YOU'LL HAVE TO GO ON WITHOUT ME!

WITHOUT YOU TO LEAD US, WE'RE LOST. THE GOVERNOR'S SOLDIERS ARE COMING BACK!

LOST, YES, FOR THE PRESENT. BUT SOME DAY, WHEN WE TRULY UNITE THINGS'LL BE DIFFERENT!



The STORY of LABOR

The STORY of LABOR



**JOE
WORKER**

WHEN WE TRIED TO FREE OURSELVES OF ENGLISH RULE, MANY OF THE COLONISTS DIDN'T SUPPORT THE REVOLUTION. BUT THE WORKERS BACKED IT ONE HUNDRED PERCENT. THEY FOUGHT FOR THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHTS — LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS — AND WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER THEY KEPT ON FIGHTING. IN THAT FIGHT THE WORKERS MET WITH MANY OBSTACLES.

A MEETING ROOM INSIDE A TAVERN, 1775 ..

FELLOW MECHANICS OF NEW YORK! SONS OF LIBERTY! BRITISH SOLDIERS KILLED AMERICANS AT LEXINGTON! WHO'S FOR FIGHTING!

I'M WITH YOU!

THESE GREASY FELLOWS WILL DRAG US INTO TROUBLE!

HURRAH!



SO PULL WE DOWN ALL TYRANNY!

WE KNOW NO BETTERS! GET OUT OF OUR WAY!

FORBEAR THIS VIOLENCE. LET YOUR BETTERS HANDLE THIS!



VALLEY FORGE....

YOU'RE BRAVE SOLDIERS! WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES!

PATRICK SULLIVAN SIR! I USED TO BE A TAILOR!

WE COULD USE SOME OF PAT'S CLOTHES NOW, SIR! I'M HYMAN LEVI, PRINTER

AND I'M JOE WORKER PLAIN LABORER!



WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER NEW YORK HELD AN ELECTION....

I WANT TO CAST MY VOTE FOR CLINTON FOR GOVERNOR!

SO DO I!

THESE FELLOWS CAN'T VOTE, CLERK! THEY DON'T OWN ENOUGH ASSESSABLE PROPERTY!

IS THIS WHAT WE FOUGHT A WAR FOR?



THE FIRST STRIKE IN AMERICA TOOK PLACE IN PHILADELPHIA, 1786....

OUTRAGEOUS!! WHO-EVER HEARD OF SUCH WAGES? I'LL PAY IT, BUT I'M RUINED!

PRINTERS

WE DEMAND \$6 A WEEK!

PRINTERS UNITE



BUT THE SECOND STRIKE OF CARPENTERS IN 1791 WAS LOST...

YOU'LL STARVE FIRST! YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO A BUNCH OF FOREIGN AGITATORS!

SHORTER HOURS 12 HRS. A DAY IS ENOUGH

A LIVING WAGE \$1 A DAY



EACH MAN BY HIMSELF COULD NOT WIN, BUT WHEN HE COMBINED WITH OTHER WORKERS, HE WAS STRONG. THIS HAD BEEN OLD BEN FRANKLIN'S WISE ADVICE: "HANG TOGETHER, MEN, OR YOU'LL HANG SEPARATELY." SO THEY ORGANIZED TRADE UNIONS . . . THE FIRST WAS IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1805—THE FEDERAL SOCIETY OF CORDWAINERS (OR SHOEMAKERS).

JOE WORKER



The STORY of LABOR

A STREET IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1805....

HOW DARE YOU TELL MY LOYAL MEN TO KEEP OUT? I'LL HAVE THE LAW ON YOU!

HE LOYAL? TO WHOM? NOT TO HIS FELLOW WORKERS! HE'S A SCAB!

STRIKE OF CORDWAINERS KEEP OUT



THE EMPLOYERS MADE GOOD THEIR THREATS THEY KAN TO THE MAYOR FOR HELP

WE DEMAND YOU ARREST THESE RADICAL AGITATORS, MR. MAYOR!

IMAGINE! THEY WANT A RAISE IN WAGES! IT'S A CONSPIRACY!

AH YES! THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO... CHARGE 'EM WITH CONSPIRACY!



YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST. WE GOT WARRANTS!

ARREST? LAY A HAND ON ME AND I'LL BEAT YOUR BRAINS IN!

NO FIGHTING, BILL. NO COURT CAN CON-VICT US!

STRIKE OF CORDWAINERS KEEP OUT



JOE WORKER WAS MISTAKEN. COURT AND JURY WERE TOLD ALL STRIKERS WERE CONFESSIONERS.

IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO COMBINE TO REGULATE THE PRICE OF LABOR. THIS UNION, COMPOSED OF MEN ONLY, A LITTLE TIME IN THIS COUNTRY, OUGHT TO SUBMIT TO ITS LAWS, AND NOT TRY TO ALTER THEM!

SHALL MERCHANTS AND EMPLOYERS BE ALLOWED TO COMBINE FOR RAISING PRICES, AND YET THESE POOR MEN BE INDICTED FOR COMBINING AGAINST STARVATION!



THE JURY WAS OUT ONLY 20 MINUTES. NOT A SINGLE WORKER HAD BEEN ALLOWED ON IT....

WHAT IS YOUR VERDICT?

THEY'LL FREE US... THEY CAN'T...

WE FIND THE DEFENDANTS GUILTY OF A CONSPIRACY TO RAISE THEIR WAGES!



HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY BEFORE I SENTENCE YOU?

I HAVE! THE NAME OF FREEDOM IS ONLY A SHADOW WHEN HONEST WORKERS CAN BE TREATED AS FELONS FOR DEMANDING A LIVING WAGE. YOU'VE WON THIS TIME BY YELLING FOREIGNER AT US! NEXT TIME IT WON'T WORK. WE'LL STRIKE AGAIN AND AGAIN... UNTIL THE JAILS CAN'T HOLD US ALL!





**JOE
WORKER**

THEN, REALIZING THAT EVEN A UNION ALONE IS WEAK, FIFTEEN PHILADELPHIA TRADES JOINED TOGETHER IN 1827 TO FORM THE MECHANICS UNION OF TRADE ASSOCIATIONS. THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD, IT ALSO STARTED THE FIRST LABOR PAPER AND LABOR PARTY. THE MOVEMENT SPREAD LIKE WILD-FIRE THROUGH THE COUNTRY — ITS PROGRAM: A TEN-HOUR DAY, THE RIGHT TO VOTE WITHOUT PROPERTY TESTS, ABOLITION OF IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT, AND FREE EDUCATION FOR ALL. IN 1834 THE FIRST LABORITE WAS ELECTED TO CONGRESS FROM NEW YORK.

I PROPOSE THAT ALL OUR SEPARATE UNIONS JOIN ONE BIG MECHANICS' UNION. BEN FRANKLIN SAID: WE EITHER HANG TOGETHER NOW OR WE'LL HANG SEPARATELY LATER!

YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT IDEA! US BAKERS'LL JOIN!

...AND THE PRINTERS, TOO!



THE NEW MECHANICS UNION STARTED A LABOR PAPER IN 1828....

WUXTRY! WUXTRY! READ ALL ABOUT LABOR'S DEMANDS!

SHOCKING! WHAT'S THE WORLD COMING TO! THERE'S PLENTY HOT SHOT IN YOUR FIRST ISSUE, ABE! ESPECIALLY THAT ARTICLE ABOUT WORKERS STICKING TOGETHER REGARDLESS OF DIFFERENCES IN RELIGION OR WHAT COUNTRY THEY CAME FROM!



AND THEY ENTERED POLITICS WITH THE WORKINGMAN'S PARTY.

WE FINALLY GOT THE VOTE! NOW LET'S ELECT MEN WHO KNOW OUR NEEDS. SEND ELY MOORE, PRESIDENT OF YOUR PRINTERS' UNION, TO CONGRESS!

THAT FELLOW IS MAD! DOESN'T HE KNOW ONLY THE RICH GO TO CONGRESS? TIMES ARE CHANGING, FRIEND! DIDN'T YOU HEAR JACKSON SAY THE COMMON FOLKS HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS THE RICH?



THE NEXT STEP WAS TO FIGHT FOR FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. EDUCATION WAS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO COULD AFFORD TO PAY. THE CHILDREN OF THE WORKERS GOT NONE AT ALL, OR CHARITY IN "PAUPER SCHOOLS" LIKE THIS....

TAKE THAT, YOU NASTY PAUPER! I DON'T KNOW WHY I BOTHER TEACHING POOR BRATS LIKE YOU! JUST MAKES YOU UPPISH, THAT'S ALL!

OW! ALL I ASKED WAS TO LEARN TO READ BETTER!



THE LABOR UNIONS LED THE STRUGGLE FOR STATE-SUPPORTED SCHOOLS. THEY WERE HELPED BY ROBERT D. OWEN AND MORRIS MANN.

DEMOCRACY IS BASED ON UNIVERSAL EDUCATION, MR. SENATOR. IT MUST BE FREE, EQUAL AND NON-SECTARIAN.

WHO'S TO PAY FOR THIS NONSENSE? WHY DON'T THEY GO TO THE PAUPER SCHOOLS?

BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT PAUPERS! THE WEALTH OF THE STATE MUST EDUCATE THE CHILDREN OF THE STATE!



THE FIGHT WAS LONG AND BITTER, BUT... LARGELY THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF LABOR, BY 1850 IT WAS WON THROUGHOUT THE NORTH....

NOW, RECITE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE!

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL...

SOME DAY WE'LL EVEN HAVE FREE COLLEGES TOO!



THE SURGE OF LABOR WAS TEMPORARILY STOPPED BY THE PANIC OF 1837. WHEN, IN THE EARLY FORTIES, TIMES BECAME BETTER, THE FACTORY SYSTEM ALSO CAME INTO BEING. POWER LOOMS IN NEW ENGLAND EMPLOYED 1500 WORKERS EACH. IN PITTSBURGH IRON MILLS STARTED. LYNN BECAME THE CENTER OF THE SHOE INDUSTRY. THE NEEDLE TRADE EMPLOYED THOUSANDS IN NEW YORK. AS MODERN "BIG BUSINESS" DEVELOPED WITH ITS POWER TO EXPLOIT, THE OLD TRICK OF SETTING WORKER AGAINST WORKER WAS REVIVED.

JOE
WORKER



BOSTON EMPLOYERS MET THE IMMIGRANTS AT THE BOAT...

I GOT FINE JOBS FOR YOU IRISH LADS AND LASSIES. \$5 A WEEK FOR LADS! \$2.50 FOR THE LASSIES!

AIN'T THAT SMALL WAGES, SIR?

IF YOU DON'T TAKE IT, THERE'S A GERMAN CROWD COMING IN I'LL GRAB IT!



IN THE FACTORIES, THE EMPLOYERS RAISED A DIFFERENT TUNE...

STARTING TODAY, YOUR SALARIES ARE CUT TO \$5 A WEEK!

WE'LL STRIKE!

STRIKE AWAY! JUST HIRED A BATCH O' HUSKY IRISH. OF COURSE, THEY'RE FURRIER CATHOLICS; BUT THEY'LL WORK FOR US!



HEAR THAT? ARE WE GONNA LET A LOTTA PAPISTS TAKE OUR JOBS AWAY? LET'S SEND 'EM BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!

AIN'T NOTHING LIKE STIRRING UP HATES TO MAKE 'EM QUIT YELPING ABOUT PAY!

LET'S GET THE IRISH TO JOIN THE UNION, THEN WE'LL ALL GET BETTER PAY AND HOURS.



UNLUCKILY THEY DIDN'T LISTEN TO JOE WORKER... NATIVE WORKERS RIOTED AGAINST IRISH, PROTESTANTS CRIED OUT ON CATHOLICS... RESULT, ALL WORKERS LIVED IN SLUMS...

MY HUSBAND'S DYING; MY CHILD'S HUNGRY! ALL BECAUSE THE MILLS PAY STARVATION WAGES!

THEY THOUGHT THEY'D FIND LIFE HERE; INSTEAD THEY FOUND PERSECUTION AND DEATH!



UNSCRUPULOUS POLITICIANS, SEEKING SCAPEGOATS, FORMED THE KNOW-NOTHING PARTY, WITH A PLATFORM OF BIGOTRY AND HATE AGAINST FOREIGNERS, CATHOLICS AND JEWS.

YOU SWEAR TO HATE ALL FOREIGNERS, CATHOLICS, JEWS; TO DRIVE THEM BACK ACROSS THE SEA?

I SO SWEAR! AMERICA FOR AMERICANS!

YEAH! THEM FOREIGNERS TOOK OUR JOBS AWAY!



FOR A FEW YEARS THE KNOW-NOTHING PARTY STIRRED UP TROUBLE. FINALLY LARGER HELPED IT OVERCOME IT. BUT FIRST THERE WERE MANY RIOTS.

KILL THE IRISH! THEY'RE PLOTTING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT!

DOWN WITH THE CATHOLICS!

YOU FOOL! HAVEN'T YOU READ THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS?



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



**JOE
WORKER**

IN LOWELL, MASS., THE MILL-OWNERS USED THE TRICK OF "DIVIDE AND CONQUER" WHEN THE GIRLS WHO WORKED IN THEIR MILLS REBELLED AGAINST THE UNJUST SYSTEM OF "PATERNALISM": EVERY ACT OF THE GIRLS WAS CONTROLLED BY SEVERE RULES, AND HEAVY FINES WERE LEVIED UNTIL NO WAGES WERE LEFT. UNDER THIS SWEATSHOP SYSTEM, OWNERS MADE ENORMOUS PROFITS WHILE WORKERS WERE NO DIFFERENT FROM SLAVES. . .

AT FIRST THE MILL GIRLS WERE ALL NATIVE-BORN; PROTESTANTS AND A FEW JEWISH. THE OWNERS TREATED THEM LIKE INMATES OF A JAIL....

YOU MUST NOT JOIN A UNION! YOU SLEEP IN OUR HOUSES, ATTEND OUR CHURCHES, BUY FROM COMPANY STORES ONLY! YOU MUST BE IN BED BY 10 AT NIGHT! IF ANY RULE IS BROKEN, YOU PAY A FINE OF \$1. EACH TIME!

THIS SOUNDS LIKE SLAVERY!



THEY CHEATED THE GIRLS ON THEIR LUNCH TIME, TOO, AND ON THEIR PAY. WHEN PAYDAY CAME AROUND....

ESTHER LEVY, YOU'RE FINED \$1. YOU DIDN'T ATTEND CHURCH LAST SUNDAY. ALICE ADAMS, YOU'RE FINED \$2. YOU BOUGHT CANDY IN A PRIVATE STORE!

THAT ISN'T FAIR! I GO TO A SYNAGOGUE!

WHAT, NO PAY AT ALL THIS WEEK?



WE PAY YOU \$2. A WEEK AND BOARD. THE WORK IS EASY AND YOU DRESS IN SILKS AND SATINS! YOU SAVE EVERY PENNY YOU MAKE!

SILKS AND SATINS! I NEVER HAD A SILK DRESS IN MY LIFE! I'LL GO, MONSIEUR!



THE CANADIAN GIRLS FOUND LONG HOURS AND LOW PAY INSTEAD, BUT THEY HAD NO MONEY TO GO HOME, AS A RESULT THE STRIKE WAS BROKEN AND...

THAT MAN TOLD ME LIES!

SERVES YOU RIGHT, YOU DIRTY CATHOLIC CANUCK! IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU AND YOUR KIND WE'D HAVE WON!

DON'T CALL NAMES, ALICE! THAT'S WHAT THE BOSS WANTS!

NOW THEY'LL NEVER UNITE!



BUT JOE WORKER KNEW THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE....

YOU'RE TREATED LIKE SLAVES BECAUSE THE EMPLOYERS GOT YOU THINKING OF YOURSELVES AS CATHOLICS, PROTESTANTS, JEWS. REMEMBER ONLY THAT YOU'RE WORKERS AND YOU'LL WIN. EVERY TIME....

DON'T LISTEN TO THAT UNION AGITATOR!

LIKE US... ADAMS, DESSAUD, LEVY!



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

LABOR WAS ALWAYS OPPOSED TO SLAVERY. WORKERS SAW THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HUMAN SLAVERY AND "WAGE" SLAVERY. THEY SAW TOO THAT THE WHITE MAN CAN NEVER BE FREE WHILE THE BLACK MAN IS A SLAVE. THEY DIDN'T FALL FOR THE LINE OF THE SLAVE-OWNERS: TO LOOK UPON THE NEGRO—OR ANYONE ELSE—AS "AN INFERIOR." SO THEY FOUGHT ON THE SIDE OF FREEDOM—in "BLEEDING" KANSAS, AT THE POLLS TO ELECT ABRAHAM LINCOLN, ON EVERY BLOODY BATTLEFIELD OF THE CIVIL WAR UNTIL THE UNION WON.

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

FOR DE LAWD'S SAKE,
HELP ME GIT T' CANADA AN'
FREEDOM!

IT'S AGAINST
THE LAW TO
HELP A RUNAWAY
SLAVE. BESIDES,
WHY SHOULD WE?
NEGROES ARE AN IN-
FERIOR RACE!



DON'T SAY THAT, PLEASE!
'TAINT MY FAULT THEY
DRAGGED MY GRAND-
PAPPY HERE T' BE A
SLAVE

I DUNNO!
IF YOU
BLACKS
GET FREE,
YOU'LL TAKE
OUR JOBS AWAY!

I TOLD
HIM THAT!



THAT'S WHAT YOUR EMPLOYER WANTS
YOU TO THINK YOU'RE COMPETING NOW!
CAN A FREE WORKER GET \$2. A DAY WHEN
SLAVE LABOR COSTS HIS MASTER ONLY
10 CENTS!



JOE WORKER'S ARGUMENTS CONVINCED
HIS FELLOWS. THEY HELPED RUNAWAYS ES-
CAPE BY THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD....

BLESS YOU
BOTH, MASSAS!

DON'T CALL US MASTERS!
YOU WORK WITH YOUR
HANDS SAME AS US,
AND YOU'RE EQUAL WITH US.
OFF TO CANADA NOW...AND
FREEDOM!



SLAVERY BECAME THE ISSUE IN 1860. ABRAHAM
LINCOLN RAN FOR PRESIDENT.

A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CAN NOT
STAND! WE CANNOT ENDURE... HALF SLAVE,
HALF-FREE!

THAT'S THE STUFF,
ABE! I'M VOTING
FOR YOU!



THEY'RE NOT! BUT IT LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE GOING TO PROVE HIS POINT.

WHEE! LEE'S SURRENDERED!
NOW THE WAR'S OVER!

IT'S ONLY
BEGUN! WE
MUST FIGHT

ON UNTIL NO
MAN IS DENIED HIS
RIGHTS BECAUSE HE'S
BLACK OR WHITE, JEW
OR CHRISTIAN, NATIVE
OR FOREIGN-BORN!





JOE WORKER

AFTER THE CIVIL WAR INDUSTRY GREW RAPIDLY. IT USED THE BRAWN AND BRAIN OF THE IMMIGRANTS—ENGLISH, IRISH, GERMAN, SWED, DANE, RUSSIAN, CZECH, POLE, ITALIAN—WORKERS OF PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC AND JEWISH FAITHS. AS THE RANKS OF AMERICAN LABOR GREW, THE UNIONS GREW . . . UNTIL THE PANIC OF 1873. THEN, IN THE MIST OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND STARVATION, EMPLOYERS CUT WAGES. THE MINERS STRUCK. FOR THE FIRST TIME BUSINESS USED PINKERTON DETECTIVES TO SMASH A STRIKE. AND, IN 1877, THE RAILROAD UNIONS WENT OUT TOO.

THAT'S THE THIRD CUT IN TWO YEARS, MR VANDERBILT WE CAN'T LIVE ON \$5 A WEEK, WHY DON'T YOU CUT YOUR STOCK-HOLDERS' DIVIDENDS, INSTEAD?

THAT'S FOREIGN AGITATOR'S TALK. WOULD YOU TAKE THE BREAD OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS WHO HOLD OUR STOCK?

HA! HA! WE'RE THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS!



WHEN THE LOCAL MILITIA REFUSED TO KILL STRIKERS, THEY CALLED IN TROOPS FROM ELSEWHERE. THESE WEREN'T SO SQUEAMISH...

THAT'LL TEACH YOU AGITATORS!



STRIKES SWEEPED THE COUNTRY. THE WORST WAS IN PITTSBURGH. THE MILITIA WAS CALLED OUT...

SHOOT THE DIRTY FOREIGNERS!

WE'RE AMERICANS SAME AS YOU! WOULD YOU SHOOT YOUR NEIGHBORS BECAUSE THEY REFUSE TO STARVE?

HE'S RIGHT! FELLOWS I'M NOT FIRING ON NEIGHBORS!



29 DIED AND 29 WERE BADLY WOUNDED BY THAT SINGLE VOLLEY THE ENRAGED PEOPLE CHASED THE MILITIA TO THE RAILROAD STATION...

THEY SHOT DOWN MY CHILD!

SOME DAY THE MILITIA WON'T BE FOOLED BY LIES THAT EVERY STRIKER IS A FOREIGN AGITATOR!



WE'VE CRUSHED THE STRIKES, GENTLEMEN!

BUT WE LOST \$5,000,000. AND THE PUBLIC SYMPATHY VANDERBILT!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY, SCOTT, THE PUBLIC BE DAMNED!



WE MUSTN'T BE DISCOURAGED, SAM. WE'VE LEARNED A LESSON... WE MUST HAVE NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON A TRADE UNION BASIS. WE CAN'T FIGHT SEPARATELY AND ALONE!



The STORY of LABOR

THE STRIKE FAILED. BUT ITS FAILURE WAS AN IMPORTANT LESSON. THE WORKERS FOUND OUT THEY NEEDED A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION. THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR TRIED TO FILL THE NEED. DRAWING MEMBERS FROM THE REGULAR UNIONS, THE KNIGHTS HAD 729,677 MEMBERS BY 1886. IT WAS A SECRET SOCIETY, INCLUDING WORKERS OF ALL TRADES, RELIGIONS, NATIONALITIES AND RACES. BUT THEIR LEADER, T. V. POWDERLY, WAS MORE INTERESTED IN TEMPERANCE AND LAND REFORM THAN IN UNION TACTICS. SO THE WORKERS BEGAN TO TURN TO ANOTHER LEADER. . .

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR SWORE MEMBERS TO COMPLETE SECRECY. EVEN THE NAME WAS SECRET. . .

DO YOU SWEAR BY DREAD ADELPHON KRYPTON NEVER TO REVEAL THE NAME OF THIS ORDER, ITS SIGNS, MYSTERIES, UNTIL DEATH?

THIS SOUNDS SILLY; BUT IF IT HELPS LABOR. . .!

I... DO!



AFTER THE INITIATION. . .

HOLY CATS! MY OLD RAILROAD UNION NEVER HAD NUTHIN' LIKE THIS! WHAT'S ADELPHON KRYPTON MEAN?

IT'S GREEK AND MEANS SECRET WORK!

NO UNION EVER 'LOWED ME IN BEFORE, SO I DUNNO WHAT THEY DONE; BUT I THINK DE KNIGHTS O' LABOR GRAND!



BUT POWDERLY WAS A TALKER INSTEAD OF A DOER. WHEN WAGES WERE CUT, HE SPOKE OF TEMPERANCE. WHEN WORKERS WERE LOCKED OUT, HE SPOKE OF CONFERENCES. . .

YOU SHOULDN'T 'VE LOCKED OUT THE KNIGHTS ON YOUR RAILROADS, MR. GOULD! LET'S TALK IT OVER!

I REFUSE TO DISCUSS MY BUSINESS WITH YOU, MR. POWDERLY!

WAIT'LL THE BOYS HEAR OF THIS!



THE BOYS HEARD AND THEY STARTED A STRIKE THAT SWEEPED THE COUNTRY. THEY BROUGHT JAY GOULD TO HIS KNEES. . .

SIGN HERE, MR. GOULD. YOU AGREE TO RECOGNIZE THE KNIGHTS, TO TAKE US BACK, TO INCREASE WAGES!

YOU LICKED ME THIS TIME; BUT JUST WAIT!

IF ONLY WE ACTED LIKE BROTHERS WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO STRIKE!



YOU HEARD WHAT MR. GOULD SAID! WE DON'T INTEND TO WAIT. MAYBE I'D BETTER TRY ANOTHER UNION. I'VE HEARD OF A SAMUEL GOMPERS!

THAT FELLOW! WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO MY ADELPHON KRYPTON?



The STORY of LABOR



**JOE
WORKER**

SAMUEL GOMPERS WAS AMERICA'S FIRST GREAT LABOR LEADER. THIS JEWISH IMMIGRANT WAS A FIGHTING ORGANIZER. HE PLACED UNIONISM ON A FIRM BASIS. HE FOUNDED THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND REMAINED ITS PRESIDENT AS LONG AS HE LIVED. "AMERICA IS NOT MERELY A NAME," HE SAID. "IT IS A SYMBOL; IT IS AN IDEAL, THE HOPES OF THE WORLD CAN BE EXPRESSED IN THE IDEAL . . . AMERICA."



NO JOBS FOR WEAVERS. I'M USING MACHINERY NOW!

LORD, STRIKE ME DEAD! MY WIFE, MY KIDS WANT BREAD AND I'VE NO WORK!

WE'RE HUNGRY TOO. MY PA'S A CIGAR-MAKER!



TIMES WERE SO HARD, THE GOMPERS FAMILY SAILED FOR AMERICA. THE CIVIL WAR WAS ON.

WUXTRY! LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATED!

WHY DO YOU CRY FOR OLD ABE, SAM? YOU'RE ENGLISH!

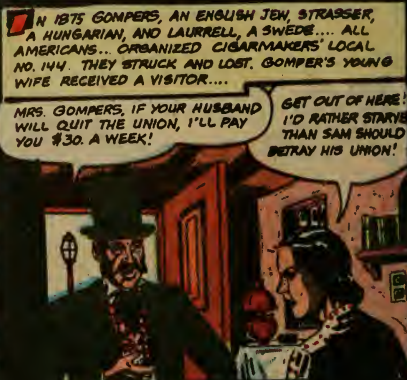
DON'T SAY THAT! I'M AN AMERICAN! I LOVED MR. LINCOLN!



YOUNG SAM BECAME A CIGARMAKER LIKE HIS FATHER...

JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MOSTLY IMMIGRANTS SOME MAKE YOU WORK IN FILTHY HOLES LIKE THIS FOR LITTLE MONEY, IF ONLY YOU HAD A REAL UNION!

SOME DAY I'LL FORM A GOOD, STRONG UNION!



IN 1875 GOMPERS, AN ENGLISH JEW, STRASSER, A HUNGARIAN, AND LAURRELL, A SWEDISH... ALL AMERICANS... ORGANIZED CIGARMAKERS' LOCAL NO. 144. THEY STRUCK AND LOST. GOMPER'S YOUNG WIFE RECEIVED A VISITOR....

MRS. GOMPERS, IF YOUR HUSBAND WILL QUIT THE UNION, I'LL PAY YOU \$30. A WEEK!

GET OUT OF HERE! I'D RATHER STARVE THAN SAM SHOULD BETRAY HIS UNION!

IN SPITE OF STARYVATION AND BLACKLISTING, GOMPERS PERSISTED. IN 1881 HE FORMED A NATIONAL FEDERATION....

YOU'RE QUITTING THE KNIGHTS TO JOIN US? WHY?

I'M TIRED OF SECRET PASSWORDS AND BIG TALK. I WANT ACTION!



AT A MEETING IN 1888...

LET'S CALL OURSELVES THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

WE'RE GERMANS, POLISH, IRISH, SLAVES: WE'RE CATHOLICS, PROTESTANTS AND JEWS... BUT WE'RE ALL AMERICANS!

TO THAT IDEAL, GOMPERS DEVOTED HIS LIFE. HE FOUGHT FOR UNION RECOGNITION, BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS, HIGHER WAGES AND SHORTER HOURS. THE CARPENTERS WERE THE FIRST TO WIN SHORTER HOURS AND THE BREWERY WORKERS, TOO, WHEN UNIONISTS USED THE BOYCOTT AS A WEAPON. BY 1892 THERE WERE 40 NATIONAL UNIONS, A "STRIKE" CHEST AND A WELFARE FUND. IMMIGRANT AND NATIVE-BORN WORKERS JOINED TO KEEP THE UNIONS FREE OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION.

JOE
WORKER

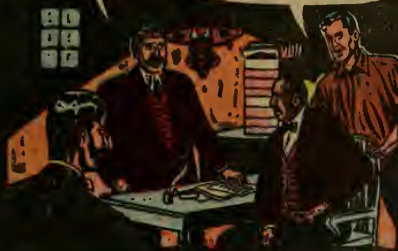


The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

GOMPERS WAS PRESIDENT AND P.T. McGUIRE SECRETARY OF THE A.F.L. BUT THERE WAS NO MONEY...

DUES ARE SLOW!
I TOOK NO SALARY
THIS MONTH!

THEY'LL PAY DUES IF
YOU TALK TO THEM, MR.
GOMPERS. TRAVEL THE
COUNTRY! ORGANIZE 'EM!



THE BREWERS' UNION HAD A TOUGH TIME AT FIRST. BUT THEIR FELLOW-WORKERS HELPED THEM...

HERE'S A GLASS OF
SMITH'S BEER, SIR!

SMITH'S
BEER?
THAT'S
SCAB
BEER; I
WON'T DRINK
IT!

HOLY
CATS!
I THOUGHT
IT TASTED
ROTTEN!



WE WANT TO AFFILIATE.
WE'RE A RELIGIOUS...

WORKERS SHOULD
UNITE AS
WORKERS, NOT ON
A BASIS OF RELI-
GION OR COLOR!

THAT'S
THE
STUFF
I WANT
TO HEAR!



GOMPERS JOINED FIGHTERS IN COLORADO. HE SPOKE IN HALLS AND BOOSES...

UNLESS YOU JOIN A UNION,
YOU'LL NEVER GET AN 8-HOUR
DAY. ALONE, YOU'RE LICKED;
UNITED, WE'LL ALL WIN!

THAT MAKES
SENSE. US
BREWERS
ARE FOR
YOU, SAM!



AT ONE UNION CONVENTION A DE-LEGATE TRIED TO TRAP GOMPERS...

I HEAR A NON-UNION
BARBER SHAVES YOU.
I DEMAND HIS NAME!

THE DELEGATE
ASKS ME THE
NAME OF MY
BARBER. I WILL
TELL HIM. HE'S
SAMUEL GOMPERS!



THE UNIONS STARTED "WE DON'T RA-TRONIZE" LISTS...

HOW DARE YOU
UNION PEOPLE TELL
FOLKS NOT TO BUY MY
GOODS?

DON'T YOU TELL
YOUR WORKERS
NOT TO JOIN OUR
UNION, OR THEY'LL
BE FIRED?





**JOE
WORKER**

TYPICAL OF THIS DEMOCRATIC KIND OF UNION WAS THE AMALGAMATED ASSOCIATION OF IRON AND STEEL WORKERS. ALL RACES AND RELIGIONS EMPLOYED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA STEEL MILLS Banded TOGETHER. AT FIRST THE CARNEGIE STEEL CO. RECOGNIZED THE UNION. BUT IN 1892 A NEW MANAGER CAME IN AND WITH HIM CAME TROUBLE. FRICK USED THE OLD "DIVIDING" TRICK AND THE UNION WAS CRUSHED. AFTER THE HOMESTEAD STRIKE WAS LOST, 50 YEARS PASSED BEFORE STEEL WAS UNIONIZED AGAIN. IN THE MEANTIME THERE WAS THE 12-HOUR DAY AND STARVATION WAGES.

HOMESTEAD IN 1892 WAS A UNION TOWN WITH A UNION CONTRACT. BUT THE CONTRACT EXPIRED...

THIS NEW BOSS, FRICK, IS TOUGH! HE SAYS HE'LL SMASH OUR UNION!

IF WE STAND UNITED, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO!



HEY, WHAT'S THIS FENCE FOR? IT WASN'T HERE THIS MORNING!

MR. FRICK'S ORDERS, BOHUNK!

I SMELL TROUBLE. NO ONE EVER CALLED ANTON A BO-HUNK BEFORE!



TROUBLE CAME FAST. FRICK LOCKED OUT THE WORKERS, AND BROUGHT IN PINKERTONS...

DON'T LET 'EM LAND. THEY'VE GOT STRIKEBREAKERS HIDDEN ON BOARD!



THE BATTLE LASTED ALL DAY. TEN WERE KILLED AND HUNDREDS WOUNDED. FINALLY THE PINKERTONS SURRENDERED...

FIRST YOU CALLED ANTON A BOHUNK; THEN YOU KILLED HIM! I OUGHT TO...



NEXT FRICK CALLED IN THE MILITIA. WITH BAYONETS IN CONTROL, THEIR LEADERS ARRESTED, THE STRIKE WAS BROKEN...

O'DONNELL, ROSS, McLUCKIE! YOU'RE CHARGED WITH MURDER!

MURDER? HOW ABOUT FRICK AND PINKERTON? THEY KILLED WORKERS!



REMEMBER, I'VE GOT PLENTY O' BOHUNKS AN' POLAKS FOR YOUR JOBS. I'LL PAY ONLY 14¢ AN HOUR, FOR A 12-HOUR DAY!

IT'S THE SAME OLD STORY. SMASH THE UNION AND KEEP THE WORKERS DIVIDED!



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE COAL MINERS WERE ALSO BADLY EXPLOITED. TO KEEP THEM DIVIDED, THE MINE-OWNERS PURPOSELY EMPLOYED WORKERS OF 20 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES. BUT THIS TIME THE TRICK DIDN'T WORK—ALL THESE WORKERS UNITED UNDER JOHN MITCHELL AND BUILT UP A STRONG UNION.

JOE WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

IN THE PENNSYLVANIA COAL-FIELDS.....1900

CAN'T USE YOU, WOLOCZEK. HIRED ENOUGH SLAVES. I WANT POLES OR ITALIANS NOW!

HOW ABOUT ME? MY NAME'S O'BRIEN.

I SMELL A RAT AROUND HERE!



JOE WORKER'S NOSE DIDN'T DECEIVE HIM. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN A MINER ASKED FOR MORE WAGES.....

I CAN'T LIVE ON \$22. A MONTH!

THE POLES AND HUNKIES'RE SATISFIED!

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, O'BRIEN. HE TOLD THEM THE SAME THING ABOUT YOU!



THE COMPANY OWNED THE HOMES, THE STORES, AND DEFECTED FOR EVERYTHING. WHEN PAYDAY CAME.....

WHAT, NO PAY THIS MONTH AGAIN?

YOU OWE US MONEY!

A LOT OF US ARE GETTING "WHITE HORSE" ENVELOPES THESE DAYS. WE BETTER ORGANIZE!



I'M JOHN MITCHELL. I'VE COME TO ORGANIZE YOU MINERS. YOU'VE BEEN KICKED AROUND LONG ENOUGH. JOIN THE UNION!

MR. MITCHELL TALKS HORSE SENSE, FELLOWS, AND I DON'T MEAN WHITE HORSE!



G'WAN! D'YE THINK US IRISH'LL JOIN UP WITH A BUNCH OF POLES AN' HUNKIES?

YOU'RE A COMPANY SPY! YOU'RE TRYING TO STIR UP RACE HATRED SO WE WON'T FORM A UNION!



THE "DIVIDE AND CONQUER" TACTICS FAILED. THE MINERS STUCK TOGETHER REGARDLESS OF RACE OR RELIGION....

WOLOCZEK!

O'BRIEN!

LEVY!

ALL GOOD UNION MEN TOGETHER!





JOE WORKER

HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR "FOREIGNERS" LIKE THESE THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO U.S.A. ONLY THE INDIANS ARE REAL "NATIVE" AMERICANS. THE REST CAME FROM EVERY COUNTRY OF THE WORLD, FOLLOWED EVERY RELIGIOUS BELIEF, HAD EVERY COLOR SKIN. THEY CAME HERE TO ESCAPE OLD WORLD PERSECUTIONS BECAUSE OF RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL BELIEFS, TO ESCAPE POVERTY AND CLASS DISTINCTIONS. THEY BECAME PART OF AMERICA, GIVING THEIR LOVE AND STRENGTH LIKE THE IRISH

IRELAND IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY WAS AN UNHAPPY LAND. POTATO FAMINES WERE FREQUENT....

THE CROP IS RUINED!
WE'LL STARVE!

LET'S GO TO
AMERICA, PAT. THERE
NO ONE STARVES!



BETWEEN 1847 AND 1851 OVER 1,500,000 IRISH GAVE THEIR HOMES FOR AMERICA.

WHAT, MORE IRISH
PAPISTS? WE'RE
BEING FLOODED
WITH FOREIGNERS

THAT'S KNOW.
NOTHING TALK!
WASN'T YOUR
FATHER A
"FOREIGNER"?



THE IRISH HELPED BUILD AMERICAN
RAILROADS... LIKE THE UNION-PACIFIC...

THEN DRILL, MY
PADDIES, DRILL;
DRILL, MY HEROES,
DRILL....

DRILL ALL
DAY NO
SUGAR IN
YOUR TAY

WORKING
ON THE
U.P.
RAILWAY!



HURRAY, JOHN CHINAMAN!
WE DID IT!

ILISH FELLAH,
YOU YELLY
VELCOME!

WHO SAYS
EAST AND
WEST NEVER
MEET!



THE IRISH WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO
JOIN UNIONS. IN 1833 THE GENERAL TRADES
UNION OF N.Y.C WAS FORMED..

NAMES, PLEASE!

O'HARA

SOUNDS
LIKE

SULLIVAN!

ST. PATRICK'S
DAY!



TODAY, IRISH LABOR LEADERS
RANK HIGH... THEY ARE TRUE
AMERICANS.

LABOR, WHICH PRODUCES
OUR WEALTH, IS ENTITLED
TO ITS FULL AND FAIR
SHARE OF THAT WEALTH.

THE COLOR
OF A MAN'S
THINKING
SHOULD
OUTWEIGH
THE COLOR OF
HIS SKIN...THE
SHAPE OF HIS
NOSE OR TEXTURE
OF HIS HAIR!



The STORY of LABOR

AND THE JEWS. AMERICANS OF JEWISH FAITH CAME FROM MANY LANDS—SPAIN, PORTUGAL, HOLLAND, ENGLAND, RUSSIA, ETC. LIKE THE CATHOLIC SPANIARDS AND THE NEGROES, JEWS CAME TO AMERICA EVEN BEFORE THE PILGRIM FATHERS. THEY HAVE ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR UNIONISM ALONG WITH THEIR FELLOW WORKERS. THEY HAVE GIVEN THE LABOR MOVEMENT SOME OF ITS FINEST LEADERS.

JOE
WORKER



The S T O R Y of L A B O R

THE FIRST WHITE MAN TO SET FOOT IN AMERICA WAS LUIS DE TORRES—A SPANISH JEW...

ASK THEM, FRIEND LUIS, IF THIS IS INDIA OR CHINA?

I'VE TRIED MANY LANGUAGES. THEY SPEAK A STRANGE TONGUE!



HAYM SALOMON, A POLISH JEW, GAVE ALL HIS FORTUNE TO THE REVOLUTION AND DIED IN POVERTY...

YOU HAVE SAVED THE REVOLUTION, SALOMON BUT YOU'VE NOTHING LEFT TO LIVE ON!

THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY OWN LIFE!



FREEDOM-LOVING JEWS AND GENTILES FLED GERMANY IN 1848 TO ESCAPE POLITICAL REACTION; RUSSIAN JEWS AROUND 1900 TO ESCAPE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION...

QUICK, REBECCA! THE COSSACKS ARE COMING!

WE MUST GO TO AMERICA! THERE ARE NO COSSACKS!



AT FIRST THEY FOUND ONLY POVERTY AND SWEATSHOP CONDITIONS...

YOU'VE ALREADY WORKED 15 HOURS. IT'S TIME TO SLEEP!

HOW CAN I? I GET ONLY A FEW PENNIES A GARMENT!



BUT THE GARMENT WORKERS SOON FORMED UNIONS TO FIGHT FOR THEM... THEY WON...

YOU WERE RIGHT. WE'RE MAKING MORE MONEY SINCE WE SIGNED YOUR UNION CONTRACT!

WITH DECENT UNION CONDITIONS YOUR WORKERS DO BETTER WORK!



AMONG THE MOST POWERFUL AND PROGRESSIVE UNIONS TODAY ARE THE GARMENT UNION

OUR GOAL IS FULL EMPLOYMENT WITH SECURE AND ABUNDANT LIFE FOR ALL.

TRADE UNIONISM CAN LIVE ONLY IN A DEMOCRACY!



AMONG THE MOST PROGRESSIVE LEADERS TODAY ARE MANY OF JEWISH FAITH.

The STORY of LABOR



JOE WORKER

FROM 1880 TO 1910 EASTERN AND SOUTHERN EUROPE POURED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS INTO THIS COUNTRY. THEY BUILT THE ROADS, WORKED IN THE MINES AND MILLS, IN THE FACTORIES AND ON THE FARMS. THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM AN EAGERNESS TO WORK, A HUNGER FOR A DECENT LIFE AND THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM. ALL OF THEM EDUCATED THEIR CHILDREN IN THE AMERICAN WAY AND FOUGHT VALIANTLY IN THE LATER WARS AGAINST TYRANNY AND FASCISM. AMONG THEM WERE THE ITALIANS.

WHEN JEFFERSON WROTE HIS DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE...

THAT'S A WONDERFUL LINE ABOUT ALL MEN BEING CREATED FREE AND EQUAL!

I GOT IT FROM AN ITALIAN, FILIPPO MAZZEI!



LATER, THE "FREE AND EQUAL" LAND BECKONED TO MAZZEI'S PEOPLE...

IN AMERICA I GET GOOD PAY BUILDING A SUBWAY. WE EAT MEAT EVERY DAY!

YOU HEAR, MARIA? I FORGOT WHAT MEAT TASTES LIKE!



BUT THE IMMIGRANTS FELL INTO THE HANDS OF SHARKS CALLED "PADRONES"...

IF I GET YOU A JOB, YOU MUST GIVE ME BACK \$5. EVERY WEEK!

THAT LEAVES ME WITHOUT BREAD AS WELL AS MEAT!



SUBWAY BUILDING WAS HARD, AND THE PAY SMALL. UNDER SALVATORE NINFO THEY FORMED A UNION AND WON THEIR STRIKE...

UNLESS YOU UNIONIZE, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE DITCHED!

AS AMERICANS, YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO JOIN!



THEY BECAME SKILLFUL GARMENT WORKERS

I'M SAM GOLDSTEIN. WELCOME TO OUR UNION, COPPOLA

GOLDSTEIN, COPPOLA, JONES, KOUSEK... ALL IN ONE UNION. THAT'S AMERICA!



DEMOCRACY, LIBERTY AND TOLERANCE ARE THE THREE GUIDEPPOSTS OF AMERICA!

CONTINUING CO-OPERATION AMONG ALL PEOPLES IS THE SUREST GUARANTEE OF LASTING PEACE!



ITALIAN LABOR LEADERS ARE IN THE FOREFRONT OF LABOR'S FIGHT

EACH OF THESE GROUPS BROUGHT SOMETHING FRESH AND NEW TO AMERICA; SOME REAL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR LIFE AND CULTURE. ALL TOGETHER THEY ARE THE AMERICAN NATION—PEOPLE OF VARIED RELIGIONS AND RACES, ADDING THE SPICE OF VARIETY TO AMERICAN LIFE. ALL NATIONS ARE COMPOSED OF VARIED GROUPS. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A "PURE RACE." AMERICA HAS BEEN WELL-REPAID FOR HER HOSPITALITY BY THE CULTURE AND THE LABOR OF PEOPLE LIKE THE SLAV-AMERICANS: POLES, CZECHS, UKRAINIANS, BULGARS, AND JUGOSLAVS.

JOE
WORKER



The S T O R Y of L A B O R

THE LOVE OF FREEDOM ALWAYS BURNED BRIGHTLY AMONG THE SLAVS. KOSCIUSKO FOUGHT FOR BOTH AMERICA AND POLAND...

GENERAL KOSCIUSKO, YOU HAVE HELPED US WIN INDEPENDENCE. WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?

RETURN TO MY NATIVE POLAND AND HELP HER GET FREE!



THE SLAVS OF EUROPE WERE OPPRESSED; MANY FLED TO AMERICA...

STOP, YOU DAMNED SERB! THE EMPEROR WANTS YOU FOR HIS ARMY!

TELL HIM IF HE WANTS ME, TO COME TO AMERICA!

HE'S MY ONLY SON!



FROM EUROPEAN FARMER THE SLAV TURNED AMERICAN MINER...

COMING TO THE UNION MEETING TONIGHT, NANOVIC?

SURE THING! AND TO MORROW I BECOME CITIZEN, TOO! ●



IN A SHORT TIME IMMIGRANTS TALKED LIKE THIS...

YOU FELLOWS SORRY YOU CAME HERE?

NO, SIRE! WE LOVA DE OLD COUNTRY LIKE A MOTHER...

BUT WE LOVA AMERICA LIKE A WIFE!



AND AUTO-WORKER...

MEBBE MY SON, ANTON, RIDE THIS JEEP. HE'S IN JAPAN.

MY BOYS IN BER-LIN!

WE AMERICANS CERTAINLY SCATTER OVER THE WORLD!



THE RANKS OF LABOR ARE A UNITED FRONT. FIRST AND SIXTH GENERATION AMERICANS WORK SIDE BY SIDE FOR THE COMMON CAUSE...

OUR UNION HELPED WIN THE WAR BY STICKING TOGETHER. LET'S WIN THE PEACE THE SAME WAY. UNITE... AND WIN! DIVIDE... AND LOSE!



The S T O R Y of L A B O R



**JOE
WORKER**

ORGANIZED WORKERS SAW A VICTORY IN THE PASSAGE OF THE SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAW IN 1890. BUT IT WAS TURNED INTO A WEAPON AGAINST THEM IN THE FAMOUS CASE OF THE DANBURY HATTERS WHEN THE COURT HANDED DOWN A LARGE JUDGMENT AGAINST THE UNION. ALL LABOR RALLIED TO AID THE STRICKEN HATTERS, THEN, IN 1914, CONGRESS PASSED THE CLAYTON ACT WHICH LIMITED LABOR INJUNCTIONS. BUT STILL FURTHER PROTECTION WAS NECESSARY. UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF A GREAT JEWISH LAWYER, THE UNIONS FOUGHT FOR WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.



**HIS SOMETIMES HAPPENS IN
A MILL....**

**LOOK OUT!
BELOW!**

**MY GOD! IT'S
BEN!**

I N THE OLD DAYS, WHEN IT DID...

**I'M CRIPPLED FOR LIFE!
WHO'LL SUPPORT MY
FAMILY?**

**MY POOR
BABIES
ARE CRYING
FOR FOOD!**

**MAYBE THE
INSURANCE
COMPANY WILL
DO SOMETHING!**



**A CORDING TO LAW THE INSURANCE
COMPANY WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE**

**NO USE YOUR GOING
TO COURT, YOU'LL BE
LICKED. IF YOU SIGN
HERE I'LL GIVE YOU
\$25**

**\$25.
WHAT'LL
WE DO
AFTER
IT'S GONE?**

**IT'S
TIME
TO
CHANGE
THE
LAW!**



**F OR YEARS THE UNIONS FOUGHT FOR WORK-
ERS COMPENSATION...**

**WE DEMAND COM-
PENSATION FOR IN-
JURED WORKERS
BY LAW!**

**DON'T LET FAM-
ILIES STARVE
WHEN THE BREAD
WINNER'S HURT!**



**PROMENTS CLAIMED SUCH LAWS UNCON-
STITUTIONAL. LOUIS D. BRANDEIS AP-
PEARED FOR THE WORKERS.**

**THE STATE HAS NO
RIGHT TO MAKE US
TAKE CARE OF A
MAN FOR LIFE BECAUSE
HE GOT HURT!**

**THE STATE'S DUTY
IS TO PROTECT THE
WELFARE OF ITS
CITIZENS WORKERS
ARE CITIZENS!**



BRANDEIS WON AS A RESULT...TODAY, 1945

**THE CHECK'S HERE
AGAIN, BEN!**

**NOW WE
CAN SEND
OUR SON
TO HIGH SCHOOL
INSTEAD OF WORK!**

**SO HE CAN
LEARN HOW
TO FIGHT
FOR SOCIAL
DEMOCRACY!**



LABOR UNIONS ALSO CAMPAIGNED FOR REGULATION OF CHILD LABOR. IT WAS HARD TO MAKE GOOD, STURDY AMERICAN CITIZENS OUT OF CHILDREN WHO NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO STUDY AND PLAY. SO UNIONS FOUGHT TO GET THE CHILDREN OUT OF THE FACTORIES AND INTO THE SCHOOLS. IN MANY STATES THEY WERE SUCCESSFUL BUT A NATIONAL LAW PROHIBITING CHILD LABOR IS STILL NEEDED. SUCH A FEDERAL AMENDMENT IS BEING PUSHED BY LABOR . . . TO KEEP FACTORY-STUNTED KIDS FROM BECOMING THE PREY OF RABBLE-ROUSERS AND HATE-BREEDERS.

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

BEFORE CHILD LABOR LAWS, THIS SOMETIMES HAPPENED...

THAT KID'S ONLY TEN! HE SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL! WHY DON'T YOU USE DONKEYS?

DONKEYS ARE EXPENSIVE!



FORE!

IT'S SO DARK AND I'M SO TIRED WHEN I GET HOME, I NEVER GET A CHANCE TO PLAY!



WHEN THESE STUNTED CHILDREN GROW UP, THEY'RE EASY PREY FOR THE HATE-MONGER...

DOWN WITH NEGROES, JEWS AND CATHOLICS! THEN YOU'LL ALL BE RICH!

I'M WID YA, PAL!

THEY FOLLOW HIM BECAUSE THEY'RE IGNORANT!



THEN THE UNIONS GOT BUSY...

CHILDREN UNDER 14 SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL, NOT IN FACTORIES!

I AGREE, AND I RUN A FACTORY!

I DON'T! I WENT TO WORK AT TEN. LOOK 'T ME NOW!



WITH CHILD LABOR LAWS IN MOST STATES

WHEE! THAT'S A HOMER, SAMMY!

HOW ABOUT A SODA AFTER SCHOOL, ENEMY?



AS FOR RABBLE-ROUSERS...

FOLLOW ME, FELLOWS! STOP RIGHT THERE! DOWN WITH... THAT'S HOW HITLER FOOLED THE PEOPLE!

THOSE BOYS KNOW THE SCORE!

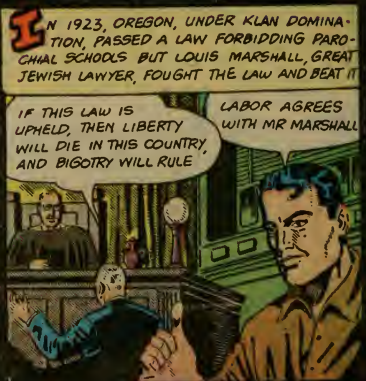




**JOE
WORKER**

THE KU KLUX KLAN, A MASKED ORDER OF HATERS, STARTED AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, WITH THE AIM OF TERRORIZING THE NEWLY FREED SLAVES BY FLOGGINGS, TORTURE AND MURDER. IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO GET RID OF THIS FIRST KLAN. IN 1915 WILLIAM J. SIMMONS, A GEORGIAN, REVIVED THE OLD KKK WITH HIMSELF AS IMPERIAL WIZARD. IT WAS A PROFITABLE RACKET, WITH \$10 INITIATION FEES AND NIGHTGOWNS SOLD AT FANCY PRICES, BY WHICH HE AND HIS GANG CLEANED UP MILLIONS. IT MADE "HATE" INTO BIG BUSINESS.

The STORY of LABOR



BASED ON THE WHIP, THE ROPE AND THE TAR-AND-FEATHER TECHNIQUE, THEY ATTACKED THE CATHOLICS AND THE JEWS BECAUSE OF THEIR RELIGION AND THE NEGROES BECAUSE OF THEIR COLOR. BY THE NINETEEN-THIRTIES THE KKK WAS ATTACKING UNIONS ALSO, BEATING UP ORGANIZERS AND WORKERS IN THE SOUTHERN TEXTILE AREAS. AGAIN THE OLD DIVIDING TRICK WAS USED, THIS TIME UNDER THE SLOGANS "FOREIGN AGITATORS" AND "ALIEN MENACE." THE UNION MEN FOUGHT BACK.

JOE
WORKER



THE SCENE IS A GEORGIA MILL TOWN ...

THE REASON YOUR PAY IS LOW AND YOUR HOURS LONG IS BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT UNIONIZED!

AHA! A UNION ORGANIZER! I'LL HAVE TO TELL THE KLAN ABOUT THIS!



WE'RE RUINED IF THIS UNION GUY ORGANIZES THE MILL WORKERS. THEY'LL WORK TOGETHER INSTEAD O' PAYING US DUES TO MAKE 'EM HATE EACH OTHER!

DON'T WORRY! THE KLAN'LL STOP HIM COLD!



LOOK HERE, TOM, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT UNION GUY IS A FOREIGN AGITATOR?

YEAH! HE'LL SWING YOUR JOB TO A COON OR A CATHOLIC!

I DON'T KNOW! HE SEEMED ALLRIGHT!



THE KLAN CONTINUED ITS DIRTY WORK...

WE'RE WARNING YOU, WISE GUY! GIT OUTA TOWN AFORE WE STRING YOU UP. WE DON'T LIKE NO FOREIGNERS HERE!

FOREIGNER? I'M AN AMERICAN! YOU MEAN YOU DON'T LIKE UNIONS!



SO YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN, HEY? NEXT TIME YOU WON'T GET OFF SO EASY!



BUT JOE WORKER CAME BACK...

ME TOO!

NOW YOU KNOW WHAT'S UP. THE KLAN SOWS HATRED AMONG YOU SO YOU WON'T FORM A UNION. IF YOU STICK TOGETHER THEY'RE SUNK!

I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT THAT WAY. SIGN ME UP!



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



JOE WORKER

UNION MEN WERE FIGHTING ON OTHER FRONTS, TOO. IN 1916 THE FOUR RAILWAY BROTHERHOODS DEMANDED AN 8-HOUR DAY AND WAGE INCREASES. THE COMPANIES REFUSED AND THE WORKERS GOT SET TO STRIKE. WITH THE COUNTRY ON THE BRINK OF WAR PRESIDENT WILSON TRIED TO EFFECT A COMPROMISE AGAIN THE COMPANIES REFUSED. WILSON WENT TO CONGRESS AND GOT THE ADAMSON ACT PASSED—AN 8-HOUR DAY FOR RAILWAY WORKERS. THE OVER-WORKED MEN IN THE STEEL MILLS DIDN'T HAVE SUCH LUCK. THEIR STRIKE IN 1919 WAS BROKEN BY HATE RUMORS AND DOWNRIGHT LIES. . . .

A TYPICAL STEEL MILL.... 1918

WHY IN BLAZES DON'T THAT "HUNKIE" GO TO NIGHT SCHOOL? HE DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD I TELL 'IM!

NIGHT SCHOOL? THAT'S A LAUGH NOW CAN HE WHEN HE WORKS HERE 12 HOURS EVERY DAY?

B BUT THE FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS KNEW THE MEANING OF "UNION"

TOMY THIS CHAP WANTS TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT JOINING THE UNION!

SURE THING... ME JOIN!

T HE STRIKE BEGAN SEPT. 1919. AT ONCE A HATE CAMPAIGN WAS STARTED WAR VETERANS WERE TOLD...

YOU SOLDIERS GONNA LET THESE HUNKS AN' DAGOGES OVERTHROW OUR GOV'MENT? KNOCK 'EM DOWN! USE YER GUNS!

DON'T LET HIM FOOL YOU! WHEN YOU'RE OUT O' UNIFORM YOU'LL WANT DECENT HOURS AND WAGES TOO!

S PIES SPREAD RACE HATRED AMONG THE WORKERS...

I HEAR THE WOP'S'RE GOIN' BACK TA WORK. THEY'RE RATTING ON US!

THE DIRTY HUNKS'RE RUNNIN' OUT ON US ITALIANS! THEY ALWAYS DOES!

THOSE FELLOW'S ARE FAKES. YOU'RE BOTH AME-RICANS... NOT SERBS OR ITALIANS.

HERE WAS NO FREE SPEECH... ARREST, ABE LINCOLN, TOO! HE WROTE THOSE WORDS!

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, SHALL NOT... THAT'S BOL-SHEVIKI TALK! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

T HE "RACE-HATE" TRICK WORKED IT HELPED BREAK THE STRIKE...

YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON, BOYS NEXT TIME YOU WON'T FALL FOR THAT STUFF ABOUT DIFFERENT RACES OR RELIGIONS THEN, BY GOD, YOU'LL WIN!

THE DEMAGOGUES PEDDLED THE SAME VICIOUS LINE DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION. WHILE THE WORKERS WALKED THE STREETS OR SOLD APPLES ON CORNERS, WHILE BANKS CLOSED THEIR DOORS AND MILLIONS WERE ON RELIEF—THE TROUBLE-MAKERS CAME OUT OF THEIR HOLES. THE TRICK WAS USED AGAIN. THEY YELLED: "IT'S ALL THE FAULT OF THE FOREIGNERS, THE JEWS, THE NEGROES, THE LABOR UNIONS." HITLER WAS USING THE SAME "SCAPEGUAT" LINE IN GERMANY.

JOE
WORKER



IN 1933...

YOU KNOW WHY YOU LOST YOUR DOUGH, BUDDY? IT'S 'CAUSE THESE DAMN BANKERS'RE JEWS.

HOLD ON THERE! I KNOW EVERYONE IN THIS BANK... THEY'RE GENTILES!

BANK



PLEASE BUY AN APPLE. MY FAMILY'S STARVING!

GET WISE T' YOURSELF, FELLAH, AN' JOIN THE CHRISTIAN FRONT!

HE PEDDLES APPLES. YOU PEDDLE HATE!



OUTSIDE A FACTORY...

THE FURRINERS TOOK YER JOBS. JOIN THE BLACK LEGION AN' RUN 'EM OUTA HERE!

THAT'S JUST ANOTHER NAME FOR KU KLUX KLAN!

NO HELP WANTED



GARBAGE DUMP...

YOU VETS'RE IN THIS DUMP COUNTA' THE LABOR UNIONS!

THAT'S HITLER'S LINE... USING EX-SOLDIERS TO CRUSH LABOR!



IN WASHINGTON A NEW PRESIDENT TOOK OFFICE. LABOR LEADERS MET HIM....

MR. PRESIDENT, THESE ARE DANGEROUS TIMES. UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE, THERE'LL BE FASCISM HERE!



ACTING SWIFTLY, THE PRESIDENT MADE JOBS FOR THE HUNGRY, WPA, PWA, CCC, ETC.

WE GET ENOUGH TO EAT AND WE HELP SAVE CHILDREN'S LIVES.

THIS IS ONE OUTFIT WHERE YOU'RE NOT ASKED WHAT RACE, COLOR OR RELIGION YOU ARE!



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



JOE WORKER

WHILE THE GERMAN UNIONS WERE BEING CRUSHED BY FASCISM, THE AMERICAN UNIONS WERE DISSOLVING UNDER THE FORCE OF DEPRESSION. LABOR GAINS OF YEARS WERE LOST—WAGES HIT BOTTOM AND HARD-WON SAFEGUARDS VANISHED. THEN THE NATIONAL RECOVERY ACT WAS PASSED WITH SECTION 7A WHICH RECOGNIZED LABOR'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. LABOR PERKED UP UNTIL THE COURTS DECLARED NRA UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

THE UNION IS BROKE, JIM! YOU HAVEN'T PAID DUES FOR SIX MONTHS!

HOW CAN I? I AIN'T GOT A NICKEL FOR A LOAF OF BREAD!

AT LEAST COME TO MEETINGS. WITHOUT A UNION WE'RE ALL SUNK!



WITH UNIONS POWERLESS, SCENES LIKE THIS SOMETIMES TOOK PLACE....

HEY, HIRE ME 'STEAD O' THAT FOREIGNER!

GWAN OUTA HERE! US WHITES GET JOBS FIRST!

THAT'S THE SUREST WAY TO RUIN US ALL!



A UNION OFFICE

WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! WHEN MEN ARE JOBLESS THEY LOOK FOR SCAPEGOATS!

I'M GOING TO WASHINGTON ABOUT THIS!



CONGRESS PASSED THE NRA WITH SECTION 7A

I AIN'T NEVER BELONGED TO A UNION BEFORE, BUT HERE GOES!

WE'RE BACK TO OUR OLD STRENGTH!

GOOD OLD 7A!



I REPRESENT THE WORKERS OF YOUR PLANT UNDER SECTION 7A OF THE NRA I INTEND TO DISCUSS...

HM! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?

WHAT!



THE SUPREME COURT JUST DECLARED NRA UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

WE BETTER GET BACK TO WASHINGTON AGAIN!



The STORY of LABOR

AGAIN THINGS LOOKED DARK FOR LABOR. COMPANY UNIONS SPRANG UP EVERYWHERE. WORKERS WHO WANTED REAL UNIONS WERE FIRED AND WAGES KEPT DROPPING. BUT SENATOR ROBERT WAGNER OF NEW YORK, TOGETHER WITH LABOR LEADERS, PUSHED THROUGH CONGRESS IN 1935 THE WAGNER LABOR RELATIONS ACT, A NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD WAS SET UP TO ENFORCE THE LAW. THE NLRA GAVE WORKERS THE RIGHT TO BARGAIN COLLECTIVELY WITH EMPLOYERS THROUGH UNIONS OF THEIR OWN CHOICE WITHOUT FEAR OF BEING FIRED. THIS WAS A BIG STEP FORWARD.

JOE
WORKER



B BEFORE THE WAGNER ACT...

HERE'S MR SMITH, THE PRESIDENT OF YOUR NEW UNION!

WHAT UNION? AND WHO THE BLAZES IS SMITH?

COMPANY UNION STUFF!



LOOK'T THAT, MR SMITH! NO SAFEGUARDS. YOU OUGHTA KICK T' THE COMPANY!

OH NO, I COULDN'T DO THAT!

A FINE UNION PRESIDENT!



I IN SENATOR WAGNER'S OFFICE

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE FORMED A UNION OF OUR OWN, FELLOWS. LET'S SIGN UP AND

NONE O' THAT STUFF GOES HERE! YOU'RE FIRED!

IT'S TIME THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGES LABOR'S RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AS A MATTER OF LAW!

YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!



A AFTER THE WAGNER ACT

NOW I KIN VOTE FOR THE UNION I REALLY WANT!

THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GOING TO BE FROM NOW ON, SAM!



A T A CONFERENCE

THE ELECTION GAVE US FULL BARGAINING RIGHTS, MR. BROWN!

OKAY BOYS! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DISCUSS FIRST?



The S T O R Y of L A B O R



JOE WORKER

ANOTHER FORWARD STEP WAS SOCIAL SECURITY. IT USED TO BE A TERRIBLE THING FOR A WORKER TO GROW OLD—AFTER A LIFETIME OF HARD WORK HE WOULD BE THROWN ON THE SCRAP HEAP. SO LABOR UNIONS WORKED FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS, ABLY ASSISTED BY ABRAHAM EPSTEIN, ISAAC M. RUBINOW AND PAUL H. DOUGLAS. AS A RESULT OF THEIR COMBINED EFFORTS, THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT WAS PASSED IN 1935. IT PROVIDED A SMALL MONTHLY INCOME TO WORKERS OVER 65. WITH THIS STEP GAINED, LABOR GOES ON TO FIGHT FOR STILL GREATER SECURITY. . .

BEFORE SOCIAL SECURITY...

SORRY, JIM, HERE'S YOUR LAST PAY CHECK! WE'RE GETTING A YOUNGER MAN IN YOUR PLACE!

WHAT A SHAME! JIM WORKED HERE FOR 40 YEARS!



I'VE BEEN FIRED, MOTHER I'M TOO OLD!

WHAT'LL WE DO NOW, JIM? WE NEVER WERE ABLE TO SAVE A CENT!



JIM VISITS A FRIEND...

SORRY, JIM I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU, BUT MY PAY'S HARDLY ENOUGH FOR MY OWN FAMILY!

I SUPPOSE WE'LL LAND IN THE POOR HOUSE!



AND SO TO THE POORHOUSE

WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING FOR PEOPLE LIKE JIM AND HIS WIFE, MR EPSTEIN!

SOCIAL SECURITY IS THE ANSWER, MY BOY! LET'S ALL WORK HARD TO PUT IT ACROSS!



AFTER SOCIAL SECURITY WAS PASSED.

HERE'S YOUR PAY CHECK, JIM YOU'LL FIND 30¢ DEDUCTED SOCIAL SECURITY. YOU KNOW!

I DUNNO WHY I SHOULD WORRY ABOUT WHEN I GET OLD!

SEEMS YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOUR DAD, OLD JIM!



WHEN YOUNG JIM GETS TO BE 65

GOT ANOTHER CHECK FROM THE GOVERNMENT, MOTHER!

IT'S WONDERFUL NOT TO BE ALWAYS WORRYING, JIM!



UP TO THIS TIME MOST UNIONS WERE SET UP ON A CRAFT BASIS. WORKERS IN THE GREAT MASS-PRODUCTION FACTORIES IN THE STEEL, AUTO, CHEMICAL AND SIMILAR INDUSTRIES WERE NOT MEMBERS OF ANY UNION. BUT LABOR KNEW THE SCORE NOW AND BEGAN TO ORGANIZE ON A "COMPLETE FACTORY" BASIS, WITHOUT REGARD TO DIFFERENCES IN CRAFT, RACE, RELIGION OR COLOR. AT THIS PERIOD THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (CIO) WAS ESTABLISHED TO MEET THE SITUATION.

**JOE
WORKER**



IN THE OLD DAYS....

STOP WORK, JIM!
OUR UNION'S JUST
CALLED A STRIKE!

I DON'T BELONG
TO NO UNION I'M
STAYING!



DON'TCHA KNOW THERE'S
A STRIKE ON, MIKE?

IT'S NO SKIN OFF
MY TEETH! I'M NOT
A MEMBER OF YOUR
UNION!



IT'S TIME WE
ORGANIZE A
UNION OF ALL
WORKERS IN OUR
INDUSTRY!

WHAT?
LET NEGROES
AND MEXI-
CANS INTO
OUR UNION?

WHY
NOT?
WORKERS
SHOULD
BE THE
LAST
ONES
TO
WORRY
ABOUT RACE,
RELIGION OR
COLOR!



LABOR FINALLY AGREED WITH JOE
WORKER....

WE WANT ALL YOU
FELLOWS IN OUR
NEW UNION!

YOU MEAN
ME, TOO?

THAT'S
RIGHT,
SAM!
YOU'RE AS
GOOD AS
ANYONE
ELSE!



WHERE'RE YOU
GOIN', BUD? WE'RE
ON STRIKE!

BUT I'M A
BOOKKEEPER!
I'M NO UNION
MAN!

THEN
YOU'D
BETTER
BE EVERY-
BODY ELSE
IS IN!



THE NEW INDUSTRIAL UNIONS SPREAD
LIKE WILDFIRE...

ARE YOU BARGAINING
FOR THE FELLOWS ON
THE PRODUCTION LINE,
TOO?

RIGHT, MR JONES
WE REPRESENT
EVERYBODY!

ONE FOR ALL
AND ALL FOR
ONE!



The S T O R Y of L A B O R



JOE WORKER

MEANWHILE AN ENEMY OF LABOR WAS GETTING STRONGER IN EUROPE. HITLER WENT BACK TO THE OLD "DIVIDE AND RULE" TRICK AND USED IT TO RUIN A WHOLE CONTINENT. FIRST HE ATTACKED THE JEWS, THEN THE CATHOLICS. NEXT HE TURNED AGAINST LABOR — WIPING OUT THE UNIONS AND ENSLAVING THE GERMAN PEOPLE. SOME POWER-HUNGRY PEOPLE HERE IN AMERICA TRIED TO FOLLOW HIS VICIOUS EXAMPLE.

The STORY of LABOR

AS FAR BACK AS 1929...

WE GOTTA GIVE OUR GERMAN SOME- BODY TO HATE, SO THEY WON'T SEE WHAT WE'RE DOING!

THAT'S EASY WE'LL GIVE 'EM THE JEWS!



HOW ABOUT THOSE VERDAMTE LABOR UNIONS? WE'LL HAVE TO GET RID O' THEM, TOO!

ONE THING AT A TIME, HERR GOEBBES. UNTIL WE'RE IN POWER WE'LL PRETEND WE'RE THEIR FRIENDS!



IN 1933 THE NAZIS GOT THE POWER. THEN...

YOU STUPID LABOR LEADERS IS FINISHED... KAPUT! FROM NOW ON THE GERMAN WORKERS TAKE ORDERS FROM HERR LEY HERE... AND ME!

THE GERMAN MASTER RACE MUST BE STRONG SO... NO MORE NONSENSE ABOUT SHORT HOURS AND GOOD PAY, AND YOU BETTER NOT GRUMBLE!

WE'VE BEEN FOOLED, HANG! I THOUGHT THEY WERE ONLY AFTER JEWS AND CATHOLICS!



WHILE IN AMERICA THERE WERE FELLOWS LIKE THESE...

SAY, THAT GUY HITLER'S GOT SOMETHING! MEBBE WE COULD GRAB A LITTLE POWER HERE THE SAME WAY!

SURE THING! LET'S FIRST YELL ABOUT THE JEWS. THEN WE KIN START ON THE OTHERS!



BUT UNION LEADERS WERE ON THE ALERT.

SOMEONE'S TRYING TO STIR UP OUR MEMBERS TO HATE EACH OTHER!

YES! THERE'S TALK AGAINST NEGROES, CATHOLICS, JEWS.

IF WE DON'T STOP IT RIGHT AWAY, ALL OF US WILL SUFFER!



THESE AMERICAN FASCISTS TOOK LESSONS FROM HITLER IN THE TECHNIQUE OF SPREADING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS HATE. GETTING PEOPLE TO HATE AND DISTRUST EACH OTHER IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD DESTROYING DEMOCRACY. VARIOUS FASCIST GROUPS STIRRED UP HATRED BETWEEN GENTILE AND JEW, NEGRO AND WHITE, NATIVE AND FOREIGN BORN AMERICANS. THE SECOND STEP IS TO DESTROY ORGANIZED LABOR BECAUSE FASCISM AND LABOR UNIONS DON'T MIX. THAT'S WHAT THESE HITLER-IMITATORS ARE TRYING TO DO NOW IN AMERICA.

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



THE BLACK LEGION GOT ITS START IN DETROIT, 1935....

IT'S A SHAME THEY MADE THAT FOREIGNER, ORLANSKY, FOREMAN STEAD OF YOU, JIM! NOW IF YOU BELONGED TO THE BLACK LEGION...

...BUT ORLANSKY HAD MORE EXPERIENCE THAN JIM!



YOU TALK LIKE A GODDAM RED!

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! AIN'T I AN AMERICAN AN' A BAPTIST? WHAT'S ORLANSKY?



JIM JOINED THE BLACK LEGION.

YUH SEE HOW WE TAKE CARE OF OUR PAWS IN TH' BLACK LEGION, JIM?

MY GOD, YOU KILLED ORLANSKY! I.... I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST GOING TO SCARE HIM!



THERE'S A FELLER IN TOWN TRYING TUN ORGANIZE A UNION THE LEGION'S PICKED YOU TO KILL HIM!

I HATE UNIONS, WORSE'N NIGGERS!

I CAN'T I WON'T!



LEMME OUTA HERE! I'M.... ANHH!

TRYING TO RAT ON US, HEY?

LET'S DUMP HIM IN A DITCH!



THEN LATER...

THE BLACK LEGION KILLED JIM BECAUSE HE WOULDN'T GO THE WHOLE HOG!

THE FIRST JOB OUR UNIONS GOT IS TO CLEAN UP THOSE MURDERERS



**JOE
WORKER**

A TYPICAL HATE GROUP IS "THE CHRISTIAN AMERICANS." THESE ARE THEIR AIMS: (1) TO ESTABLISH GENTILE WHITE SUPREMACY, (2) TO CRUSH LABOR UNIONS. IN 1943 THEY TRIED TO PUSH THROUGH ANTI-UNION SO-CALLED "RIGHT TO WORK" LAWS IN EVERY STATE. WHEN THE WAR DOOMED INDUSTRY AND LABOR WAS SCARCE, EXPLOITERS WERE WILLING ENOUGH TO EMPLOY WORKERS REGARDLESS OF COLOR OR RELIGION. BUT "THE CHRISTIAN AMERICANS" DIDN'T WANT THE WORKERS TO JOIN UNIONS. AS A RESULT, THERE WAS A BLOODY RIOT IN BEAUMONT, TEXAS, DURING THE "WAR FOR FREEDOM."

TEXAS DURING WORLD WAR II

THAT'S SWELL! NEGROES AND WHITES, GENTILES AND JEWS... ALL WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE WAR EFFORT. WHAT'S MORE, THEY'RE UNION MEMBERS!

THERE'S A GANG CALLED "THE CHRISTIAN AMERICANS" WHO DON'T LIKE IT!



TIN BEAUMONT TEXAS, JUNE 1944...

US CHRISTIAN AMERICANS'VE GOTTA MOVE FAST, THEM NIGGERS AN' FOREIGNERS'RE TOO UPPITY. WHY, THEY EVEN JOIN UNIONS!

BUT THEY'RE DOING WAR WORK! OR NO WAR, WE GOTTA PUT 'EM IN THEIR PLACE!



THIS WAS MEANT BY "PUTTING 'EM IN THEIR PLACE!"

THAT'LL LEARN YOU TO JOIN A UNION, YOU BLACK...

BURN 'EM ALL OUT... AN' THE SHIPS, TOO!



THE "CHRISTIAN AMERICANS" SPONSOR "RIGHT TO WORK" LAWS...

PASS THIS BILL, SENATOR, AND WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY NO MORE ABOUT THE DAMN UNIONS!

LEAVE IT TO ME, SUH! IT'S AS GOOD AS PASSED!



THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATURE, MARCH 1943...

THIS BILL IS VICIOUS! IT AIMS TO DESTROY LABOR UNIONS UNDER A PRETENSE OF "THE RIGHT TO WORK." AND YOU, SIR, ARE RESPONSIBLE! HITLER WOULD BE GLAD TO USE YOU IN HIS RACKET!



UNION OFFICE....

ORGANIZED LABOR MUST FIGHT THIS PHONY "RIGHT TO WORK" BILL WITH ALL ITS POWER!



YES! AND MAKE EVERY WORKER AWARE OF THE TIE-UP BETWEEN RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE AND UNION-BUSTING!

The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

LABOR PATRIOTICALLY STAYED ON THE JOB ALL THROUGH THE WAR, TURNING OUT THE FIGHTING TOOLS AND SCALING NEW PRODUCTION HEIGHTS. THE UNIONS PLEDGED NO STRIKES FOR THE DURATION, DEMANDING ONLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HOLD PRICES DOWN AND GUARD AGAINST INFLATION. IN MOST INDUSTRIES LABOR AND MANAGEMENT JOINED TO SPEED UP THE FLOW OF MATERIAL TO OUR BOYS OVERSEAS, THUS SHORTENING THE WAR BY MANY MONTHS. AMERICANS OF ALL RACES AND RELIGIONS, WORKING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER, PRODUCED THE GOODS.

JOE
WORKER



DECEMBER 7, 1941...
PEARL HARBOR'S BEEN
ATTACKED! IT'S WAR!

GET BACK ON
THE JOB, FELLOWS.
THEY'LL BE
NEEDING THESE
PLANES IN A
HURRY!



UNION LEADERS TALKED IT OVER WITH
MANAGEMENT...

LABOR WANTS TO LICK
FASCISM. SO DO YOU,
MR. JONES. LET'S WORK
TOGETHER TO SPEED UP
PRODUCTION!

I OPPOSED
YOUR UNION
IN MY BU-
SINESS,
BUT...I'M
AN AMERICAN,
I'M WITH YOU!

FIRST
THING
TO DO
IS TO
SET
UP
A
COM-
MITTEE!



LISTEN TO THIS, MEN!
LAST MONTH OUR PRO-
DUCTION JUMPED 36
PER CENT!

THAT'S WHAT
COOPERATION
DOES!



BUT HATE-MONGERS TRIED TO SLOW UP
PRODUCTION BY SETTING WORKERS AGAINST
WORKERS.

WHATCHA WANT TUN
WORK 'LONGSIDE O'
POLAKS AN' NIGGERS
PER? WHY DON'TCHA
PUT UP A BEEF ABOUT
IT?

THAT'S HITLER
TALK! IF THEY CAN
FIGHT TOGETHER
OVERSEAS, THEY CAN
WORK TOGETHER HERE
AT HOME!



WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE?

THIS GUY
WANTED ME
TO SLOW DOWN.
I GOT A BOY IN
THE AIR FORCE!

GOOD
WORK,
SAM!
THE
UNION'LL
TAKE
CARE
OF HIM!



THE ARMY'S JUST
AWARDED US AN E
FOR EXCELLENCE
IN PRODUCTION.
WE'RE AHEAD OF
SCHEDULE!

THAT'S BECAUSE
WE ALL WORKED
TOGETHER. LABOR'S
SHOWN HITLER HE'S
DEAD WRONG! WE
DON'T WORRY ABOUT
RACE OR RELIGION
HERE!

The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



JOE WORKER

AMERICANS — OF ALL RACES AND RELIGIONS — ALSO DELIVERED THE GOODS. THE MEN WHO SAIL THE SHIPS HAVE ALWAYS HAD A TOUGH JOB BUT NEVER SO HARD OR DANGEROUS AS DURING WORLD WAR II. FROM SUEZ TO MURMANSK, FROM AUSTRALIA TO IWO JIMA, THE MERCHANT SEAMEN WERE ATTACKED BY AIRPLANE, SUBMARINE, AND HURRICANE. WHILE THOUSANDS OF THEM PERISHED IN WATERY GRAVES, OTHERS WENT ON TO BRING THROUGH THE NEEDED CARGOES. ALL UNION MEN — BLACK AND WHITE, PROTESTANT, JEW AND CATHOLIC — UNITED TO FIGHT FOR A BETTER WORLD.

IN THE FIRST DAYS OF THE WAR SHIP-OWNERS TURNED DOWN TRAINED SEAMEN BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR OR RELIGION...

WHO'LL SIGN UP FOR THE FREIGHTER, ABE LINCOLN ON THE MURMANSK RUN?

I'LL SIGN! NAME'S JOE GOLDSTEIN.

ME TOO!

SORRY! WE'RE HIRING WHITE GENTILES ONLY!



YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE 'EM! READ YOUR UNION CONTRACT. IT SAYS, "THERE SHALL BE NO DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RACE, CREED, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN!"



AS A RESULT, SHIPS CREWS BECAME TRULY AMERICAN! AND THEY WORKED AND FOUGHT TOGETHER....

YOU SMACKED HIM SQUARE, GOLDSTEIN!

WE LETS NO NAZI SUBS KEEP DIS BOAT FROM GITTIN' THROUGH!



ONE OF THE MERCHANT MARINES' GREATEST HEROES WAS HENRY LEITMAN, A JEW. ON D-DAY....

WE'LL ALL BE SMASHED, LEITMAN! BETTER SHEER OFF!

THEY'LL DROWN IF WE LEAVE 'EM. KEEP ALONGSIDE, BOYS!



CAPT. HUGH MULZAC, A NEGRO, WITH A CREW OF 18 NATIONALITIES, COMMANDED THE FAMOUS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON....

WE GOT THROUGH BEFORE, AND WE'LL GET THROUGH AGAIN! THE BOYS IN FRANCE NEED THESE SHELLS!

WE GOT A LOT O' AMMUNITION ABOARD, CAP'N. IF N A TORPEDO HITS US....



D-DAY WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE MERCHANT MARINE. N.Y. TIMES, JUNE 10, 1944....

WE'RE ON FIRE! WHAT'LL WE DO?

KEEP HEADING FOR THE BEACH! THIS IS D...DAY!!!



The S T O R Y of L A B O R

A FREE WORLD FOR ALL, WITHOUT PREJUDICE AND HATE. IT TOOK TWO GREAT WARS AND THE ATOMIC BOMB TO PROVE THAT IT'S REALLY ONE WORLD. ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY ALL NATIONS ARE LINKED. WHATEVER TAKES PLACE IN CHINA, SPAIN OR IRAN HAS AN IMMEDIATE EFFECT ON AMERICANS; AND ESPECIALLY ON AMERICAN WORKERS. WORKING PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD HAVE COMMON NEEDS. THEY MUST JOIN TOGETHER IN A WORLD-WIDE FIGHT FOR DECENT LIVING AND WORKING STANDARDS.

JOE
WORKER



DON'T LET GUYS LIKE THIS FOOL YOU...

WHADDA WE CARE ABOUT CONDITIONS IN EUROPE OR ELSEWHERE? LET 'EM STEW IN THEIR OWN JUICE! AMERICA FIRST!

HE SAID THE SAME THING BEFORE THE LAST WAR, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED?



LET'S SEE WHAT DID HAPPEN! TAKE ITALY UNDER MUSSOLINI....

I'M HUNGRY... AND SO-O SLEEPY!

IT'S WORK... WORK... FOR A PIECE OF BREAD!

FASTER! WE MUST UNDER-SELL THOSE AMERICAN PIGS!



OK JAPAN....

MY HUSBAND SAY, IN AMERICA THEY HAVE UNIONS!

AND BABIES DON'T HAVE TO WORK!

UNIONS? OFF TO JAIL WITH YOU BOTH!



AS A RESULT, HERE IN AMERICA THE DEPRESSION GOT WORSE....

OWING TO FOREIGN COMPETITION, YOUR WAGES ARE CUT ANOTHER 10%.

DIRTY FOREIGNERS!

BLAME YOURSELF, JIM. WHEN HITLER AND MUSSO BUST THEIR LABOR UNIONS YOU DON'T GIVE A HOOT!



UNION LEADERS ARE WORKING ON THE PROBLEM....

WE PROPOSE A WORLD CHARTER TO APPLY TO ALL NATIONS.

WITH THE RIGHT TO FREE, DEMOCRATIC UNIONS!



WITH DECENT LIVING CONDITIONS EVERYWHERE THERE'D BE LITTLE CHANCE OF ANOTHER WAR..

AMERICA IS RICH AND STUPID! LET'S GRAB HER WEALTH!

WHAT FOR? WE GOT ENOUGH NOW!

AMERICANS STUPID? I MET THEIR UNION DELEGATES AT A MEETING THEY'RE MIGHTY NICE FELLOWS!



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

JOE WORKER

AMERICAN WORKERS AGREED TO HOLD THE LINE ON WAGES DURING THE WAR ON THE PROMISE THAT PRICES WOULD ALSO BE HELD DOWN. THE LITTLE STEEL FORMULA FROZE WAGES AND LABOR STUCK TO ITS BARGAIN. BUT THE COST OF LIVING WENT UP IN SPITE OF PROMISES. NOW THAT THE WAR IS OVER, PRICES ARE SOARING AND 'BLACK MARKETS' PREVAIL. LABOR MUST CONTINUE THE FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION. BUT A FEW CONGRESSMEN CAN KILL BILLS THAT LABOR WANTS. SENATE RULES ALLOW REACTIONARY SENATORS TO FILIBUSTER AGAINST PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION.

UNION LEADERS MET THE WAR LABOR BOARD IN JULY, 1942....

THIS LITTLE STEEL FORMULA ALLOWS ADJUSTED WAGE INCREASES UP TO 15%, BUT NO MORE. WILL LABOR AGREE TO THIS?

PRICES MUST BE FROZEN FIRST!

BUT PRICES SKYROCKETED....

3 LBS. O' CHOP MEAT. THAT'S \$1.80. DOUBLE THE OLD PRICE! MY HUSBAND'S WAGES DIDN'T GO UP!

NEITHER DID MINE. I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'RE GOING TO LIVE!

WHEN THE WAR ENDED....

LABOR'S PAYING MORE FOR EVERYTHING IT BUYS. TO GET ALONG, OUR WAGES MUST GO UP, TOO!

WE PLEDGED NOT TO STRIKE DURING THE WAR. THE WAR'S OVER NOW!

FULL EMPLOYMENT...

IF LABOR IS GUARANTEED FULL FAIR EMPLOYMENT, THERE'LL BE NO DEPRESSION

IT'S LABOR'S BUYING POWER THAT MAKES PROSPERITY.

I AGREE I URGED SUCH A BILL IT'S UP TO CONGRESS, NOW!

CERTAIN... SOME ARE OPPOSED...

AM'N AGAINST LABAH UNIONS. THEY ARE UN-AMERICAN, AND JEST A BUNCH OF FOREIGN RADICALS!

WHY SO? BECAUSE THEY WANT A LIVING WAGE? THEY'RE AS AMERICAN AS WE ARE!

THE FIGHT IS ON. AT ELECTION TIME...

MAN FRIENDS, AN ASK FOR RE-ELECTION - ON MAN RECORD...

WHAT RECORD? DIDN'T YOU CALL US A BUNCH O' FOREIGNERS?

AN' PUSHED A BILL TO OUTLAW STRIKES

LABOR HAS LEARNED HOW TO VOTE!

The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

IN THE OLD DAYS A FILIBUSTER MEANT A PIRATE WHO PLUNDERED PEOPLE. TODAY THE FILIBUSTER WEARS A FROCK COAT AND SITS IN THE SENATE — DENYING PEOPLE THEIR RIGHTS BY TALKING BILLS TO DEATH. BILBO AND COMPANY USE THIS DEVICE, ESPECIALLY ON BILLS THAT GUARANTEE EQUAL RIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF RACE, RELIGION OR COLOR. SO FAR FILIBUSTER HAS LICKED THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL, THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES BILL AND THE ANTI-POLL TAX BILL.

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

WE ORIGINAL FILIBUSTER... CAPTAIN KIDD!

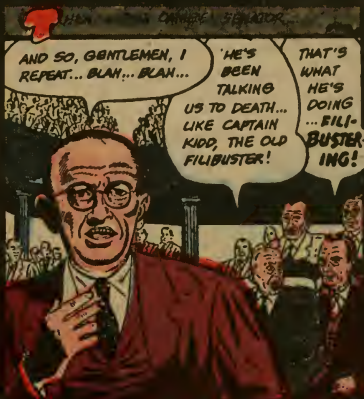
WE TAKE THEIR MONEY
AND WE MAKE 'EM WALK
THE PLANK... NO! NO! THAT'S
THE LIFE!



AND SO, GENTLEMEN, I
REPEAT... BLAH... BLAH...

HE'S
BEEN
TALKING
US TO DEATH...
LIKE CAPTAIN
KIDD, THE OLD
FILIBUSTER!

THAT'S
WHAT
HE'S
DOING
...BILI-
BUSTER-
ING!



AND SO A NEW NAME WAS COINED. HERE'S
HOW IT WORKED ON THE ANTI-LYNCHING
BILL...

WE GOTTA LICK THIS
NIGGAH-LOVING LAW!
IMAGINE THEM DAM
YANKS TRYIN' TO SPOIL
OUAH FUN!

YOU'RE RIGHT, SEN-
ATOR BULLHEAD! BUT
HOW? WE AIN'T GOT
ENOUGH VOTES!



I GOT IT! LET'S
FILIBUSTER! WE'LL
TALK... AND TALK...
AND TALK UNTIL
THE OTHERS GET
TIRED!

A SPLENDID IDEA!
I'LL READ MY
OLD SPEECHES!
THAT'LL KILL 'EM!



AND SO, DAY AFTER DAY, NIGHT AFTER
NIGHT... UNTIL...

AN'LL READ NOW
WHAT AN ONCE SAID
AT A DINNAH TO THE
GOVERNOR..

WHAT...
AGAIN?
I'VE
HEARD
THAT SPEECH
A DOZEN TIMES!

THIS BILL
IS TAKING
UP TOO
MUCH
TIME
WE'LL
HAVE
TO TABLE
IT!



AS A RESULT, THIS STILL GOES ON...

THEY LYNCHED THAT POOR FELLOW BECAUSE
HE JOINED A UNION! AS LONG AS THESE THINGS
HAPPEN, WE HAVE NO FREEDOM HERE!





**JOE
WORKER**

MOST AMERICANS WANT THESE BILLS TO PASS. THE IDEA OF THE POLL-TAX IS TO KEEP WORKERS, ESPECIALLY NEGROES, FROM VOTING. IN POLL-TAX STATES LESS THAN 25% OF THE PEOPLE CAN VOTE. THAT'S WHY WORKERS HAVE A TOUGH TIME IN THOSE STATES. THAT'S THE TEST FOR DEMOCRACY. HAS EVERY CITIZEN — RICH, POOR, BLACK, WHITE, CHRISTIAN, JEW — THE RIGHT TO VOTE?

JUST AFTER THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION...

IF YOU HAVE NO TAXABLE PROPERTY YOU CAN'T VOTE!

BUT I WAS TOO BUSY MAKING THIS COUNTRY FREE!

WE'RE STILL NOT FREE!



AFTER 1830 THE WORKERS GOT THE VOTE. BUT AROUND 1890, WHEN TIMES WERE HARD...

THEM DAMN SHARECROPPERS'RE SQUAWKIN'. WE'LL BE LICKED NEXT ELECTION!

LET'S CHARGE TWO BUCKS FER TH' RIGHT TUN VOTE. THEY AIN'T GOT TWO BUCKS!

SWELL! THAT LETS THE NIGGERS OUT, TOO!



THE POLL TAX WAS CUMULATIVE. THAT MEANS...

HERE, SUN! IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME T' RAISE THIS MONEY! KIN I VOTE NOW?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! YOU OWE BACK TAXES... LET ME SEE... \$46.

THEN I'M SUNK, TOO!



WITH MOST WORKERS DISFRANCHISED, THIS HAPPENS...

I DON'T CARE WHAT WAGES THEY PAY UP NORTH. YOU TAKE WHAT I GIVE YOU, OR ELSE...

IF WE HAD THE VOTE, HE WOULDN'T DARE...



CONGRESS HAS TRIED TO PASS A LAW AGAINST THE POLL TAX. BUT...

US POLL-TAXERS KIN LICK ANY BILL YOU PUT UP! WE GOT BULL VOICES AN' MIGHTY LONG WIND!



THE BILL COULD BE PASSED BY CLUTURE WHICH MEANS TO LIMIT DEBATE BY PETITION...

IF YOU'LL SIGN THIS CLUTURE, WE CAN STOP THE FILIBUSTER!

OH, WE CAN'T STOP SENATORS FROM TALKING! THAT WOULDN'T BE COURTEOUS!

YOU'D RATHER STOP DE-MOCRACY!



EVERY CITIZEN HAS ALSO THE RIGHT TO A JOB. BUT EMPLOYMENT ADS STILL READ: "WHITE ANGLO-SAXON PROTESTANTS ONLY". IN 1941 PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT CREATED THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMITTEE (FEPC) TO STOP DISCRIMINATION IN DEFENSE WORK. EVERYONE WAS NEEDED TO WIN THE WAR. BUT THE WAR IS OVER AND FEPC ENDS UNLESS A NEW LAW IS PASSED BY CONGRESS. WHILE THE FEDERAL FEPC IS BEING BLOCKED BY A SMALL GROUP OF LABOR-HATING SENATORS, NEW YORK STATE WENT AHEAD AND PASSED THE FIRST STATE FEPC.

JOE
WORKER



BEFORE THE WAR...

HMM!! KELLY... CATHOLIC; COHEN... JEWISH; JOHNSON... NEGRO. AH! SMITH... WHITE PROTESTANT! YOU'RE HIRED, SMITH. THE REST OF YOU CAN GO!



WITH WAR COMING, THE FEPC WAS CREATED...

IF AMERICA IS TO SURVIVE WE NEED EVERY AMERICAN ON THE JOB. THIS ORDER WILL STOP DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RACE, CREED, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN!

LABOR BACKS YOU TO THE HILT, MR. PRESIDENT!



FEPC HELPED WIN THE WAR...

GEE! I NEVER KNEW YOU FELLOWS WERE SUCH SWELL GUYS! WE'RE A GREAT TEAM TOGETHER!

YOU'VE LEARNED A LESSON, SMITH! I HOPE WE'LL ALL REMEMBER IT WHEN PEACE COMES, TOO!



PEACE CAME, BUT SOME PEOPLE FORGOT. WHEN SENATOR CHAVEZ INTRODUCED A BILL FOR A PERMANENT FEPC...

I HOPE YOU'LL HELP ME PASS THIS BILL. AMERICA MUST BE TRULY DEMOCRATIC!

I'M FOR IT!

WHAT! PASS THIS NIGGAH-LOVIN' COMMUNIST BILL? I'LL FILIBUSTER IT TO DEATH!



AND BILBO... AND OTHERS LIKE HIM... DID...

I'M GONNA TALK TILL KINGDOM COME TUN LICK THIS BILL LET THESE FELLOWS GO BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!

HOW ABOUT THE FELLOWS WHO DIED IN FRANCE AND OKINAWA? WHERE CAN THEY GO?



UNLESS LABOR FIGHTS HARD, THIS WILL HAPPEN AGAIN...

HMM! KELLY... CATHOLIC, COHEN... JEWISH, JOHNSON... NEGRO AH! JONES WHITE PROTESTANT! YOU'RE HIRED, JONES YOU OTHERS CAN GO!

IS THIS WHAT I GOT WOUNDED FOR?



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R



**JOE
WORKER**

OUR FIGHTING GIs ARE HOME AGAIN. THEY HAD HEARD LOOSE TALK ABOUT STRIKES, BIG WAGES, HIGH LIVING. A FEW FELL FOR THE HATE LINE OF FAKE "VETERANS" GROUPS WHO USED THE DIVIDING TRICK AS A MEANS TO SMASH LABOR. BUT MOST SOLDIERS REFUSE TO FALL FOR THIS—THEY HAVE THE FACTS. THEY KNOW THAT LESS THAN 1/10 OF 1% OF TIME WAS LOST BY STRIKES, THAT THE AVERAGE WAGE WAS ONLY 70¢ AN HOUR, THAT THE UNIONS PROTECTED THEIR RIGHTS WHILE THEY WERE AWAY

NY WASN'T AS BAD AS SOME OTHER STATES, BUT EVEN THERE THIS USED TO HAPPEN...

AHEN, SPINELLI! WHAT'S YOUR NATIONALITY?
AMERICAN, OF COURSE!
OH NO, HE WANTS TO KNOW IF YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS ITALIAN!



BUT NEW YORK LABOR UNIONS, SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS GOT BUSY...

LABOR UNIONS FAVOR THE IVES-QUINN BILL!
SO DO ALL SCHOOL TEACHERS!
AND THE CHURCHES, TOO!



AT FIRST WHEN THE BILL PASSED, NATAMON GURE TRIED TO STIR UP TROUBLE.

THEY'RE TELLING YOU HOW TO RUN YOUR BUSINESS! IF YOU'LL GIVE ME SOME MONEY, I'LL FIX 'EM!
I'D RATHER SEE HOW IT WORKS OUT FIRST!



IT WORKED OUT FINE! BOTH FOR EMPLOYERS.

YOU KNOW, JOE.. I'M GETTING MUCH BETTER HELP SINCE I DON'T ASK WHAT RACE OR RELIGION THEY BELONG TO!



AN NO FOR WORKERS TOO...

YOU'RE A GRAND GUY, SPINELLI! SO'S GOLDSTEIN AND BROWN WHAT A DOPE I USED TO BE!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU KNOW THEM NOW! YOU NEVER GAVE 'EM A CHANCE BEFORE!



THE IVES-QUINN BILL IS MOST SUCCESSFUL I'M RECOMMENDING A SIMILAR BILL IN MASS
AND I IN WISCONSIN!
THAT'S FINE, BUT WE STILL NEED A NATIONAL FEPC!



KNOWING THE FACTS IS HALF THE BATTLE WON. THAT'S WHY LABOR HAS ALWAYS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING. FREE, UNIVERSAL EDUCATION IS THE PATH TO REAL DEMOCRACY. ONLY PEOPLE WITH A SOUND KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD THEY LIVE IN, PLUS STRAIGHT THINKING, CAN TELL A RABBLE-ROUSER FROM A PATRIOT, A FAKE FROM A FACT, A PREJUDICE FROM THE TRUTH. THOSE STATES WITH THE WORST BIGOTS AND HATE-MONGERS HAVE THE FEWEST SCHOOLS AND LOWEST EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS.

JOE
WORKER



The
S
T
O
R
Y
of
L
A
B
O
R

WHEREVER YOU FIND HATE-PEDDLING POLITICIANS ALWAYS IN OFFICE, YOU'LL FIND THIS TOO...

AH KIN PLAY TH' BANJO, CHAW TERBACCY, SPIT A MILE... AN' AH HATES CATH'LICS, JEWS, UNIONS AN' NIGGERS!

AIN'T HE THE RIFSNORTIN' HELLION? LE'S VOTE FER 'IM AGIN!



BUT THOSE ARE NO QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONGRESS!

Q. QUALI... SAY, THEM'S HIGH-TONE WORDS! I NEVER GONE TER SCHOOL!

AIN'T NO SCHOOL THIS SIDE O' THE MOUNTAINS.



BUT IN STATES WITH DECENT SCHOOLS...

IF YOU'LL RE-ELECT ME TO CONGRESS...

HOLD ON! DIDN'T YOU VOTE AGAINST THE FEPC LAST SESSION?

WHAT'S YOUR STAND ON THE POLL TAX?



LABOR DEMANDS FEDERAL AID FOR EDUCATION...

NO CHILD, NO VILLAGE, SHOULD BE WITHOUT A PROPER SCHOOL. THE GOVERNMENT MUST SEE TO IT.

WITH BUSES, HOT LUNCHEONS AND GOOD TEACHERS!



SOME TEACHERS GET LESS THAN \$600. A YEAR...

WHY DON'T YOU TEACHERS ORGANIZE A UNION? YOU'RE PAID WORSE THAN ERRAND BOYS!

THAT'S A FINE IDEA!



LABOR RUNS ITS OWN SCHOOLS FOR MEMBERS...

SCIENCE SHOWS THERE ARE NO MASTER RACES! RACES OR COLOR HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH INTELLIGENCE!

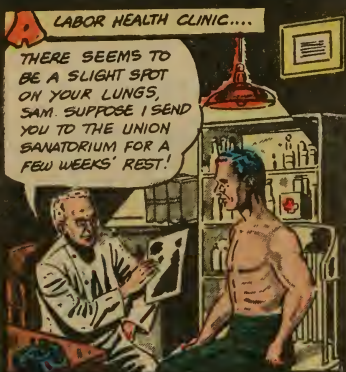
THAT'S RIGHT! PEOPLE ARE ABOUT THE SAME EVERYWHERE!





**JOE
WORKER**

JUST AS EDUCATION IS PART OF THE UNIONS' FIGHT, SO IS THE GENERAL WELFARE OF WORKERS. HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND CULTURE ARE IMPORTANT. THAT'S WHY MORE AND MORE UNIONS HAVE MEDICAL AND DENTAL CLINICS, VACATION CAMPS, LECTURE SERIES, DRAMATIC, MUSICAL AND SPORTS PROGRAMS. THE OLD ROMAN SLOGAN THAT "A HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY MAKES A GOOD CITIZEN" IS STILL TRUE TODAY.



AND A GOOD CITIZEN DESERVES A GOOD HOUSE TO LIVE IN. ORGANIZED LABOR HAS ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR BETTER AND MORE ADEQUATE HOUSING. IT DEMANDS GOVERNMENT AID TO GET RID OF DISEASE-BREEDING SLUMS WHERE 1/2 OF THE NATION IS FORCED TO LIVE. IT VIGOROUSLY OPPOSES SEGREGATION AND RACIAL RESTRICTIVE RULES. UNDER DEMOCRACY, EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE RIGHT TO LIVE WHEREVER HE CHOOSES. TODAY THE HOUSING PROBLEM IS WORSE THAN EVER. MILLIONS OF NEW HOUSES ARE NEEDED AND FEDERAL AID IS ESSENTIAL.

JOE
WORKER



EVEN BEFORE THE WAR WE HAD SLUMS LIKE THIS....

WHY DO YOU LIVE IN THIS FILTHY DUMP? THERE ARE NICE HOUSES ACROSS THE TRACKS!

KAIN'T AFFORD TO. DON'T MAKE ENOUGH!

SIDES, FOLKS THERE WON'T LET US!



WHILE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TRACKS....

ANOTHER THING, MR. JONES, IF YOU BUY HERE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS. WE SELL ONLY TO WHITE PROTESTANTS WITH PROPER SOCIAL REFERENCES.



NOW THE HOUSING SITUATION IS FAR WORSE

FIFTY A MONTH? GEE, FOXHOLES WERE CHEAPER!

HERE'S YOUR DOUGH. I'LL TAKE IT!

WHERE'RE THE CHICKENS GOING TO LIVE?



WHY DON'T YOU BUILD LOWER-PRICE HOUSES WORKERS CAN AFFORD

I MAKE MORE MONEY ON THESE EXPENSIVE ONES!

THEN THE GOVERNMENT'LL HAVE TO DO IT!



BUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MOVES SLOW, AND....

I AGREE THE SITUATION IS VERY BAD! BUT THERE ARE CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO WANT... ER... RESTRICTED BUILDING.

YOU MEAN NO NEGROES OR RELIGIOUS MINORITIES NEED APPLY?



YES!

THEN LABOR'S GOING TO PUT THE HEAT ON CONGRESS! THIS IS A GOVERNMENT OF ALL, NOT JUST A FEW BIGOTS!



The S T O R Y of L A B O R

The S T O R Y of L A B O R



**JOE
WORKER**

HERE IS LABOR'S PROGRAM FOR THE POST-WAR WORLD:-

- 1—FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR EVERYBODY.
- 2—FULL PRODUCTION TO FEED, CLOTHE AND HOUSE ALL PEOPLE PROPERLY.
- 3—WAGES THAT GIVE REAL PURCHASING POWER.

- 4—A 30-HOUR WORKING WEEK, FOR ADEQUATE LEISURE.
- 5—AN END TO RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS HATES AND PREJUDICES.
- 6—A DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE.

NOT AN EASY PLAN TO CARRY OUT, BUT ORGANIZED LABOR SAYS IT CAN BE DONE IF AMERICAN WORKERS DON'T FALL FOR THE OLD DIVIDING TRICK AND PULL TOGETHER.



THAT KIND OF UNITY MUST WORK ON AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE TOO. LABOR KNOWS THE TERRIBLE COST OF WAR—THE DREAD RESULTS OF FASCISM AND HATE. TO SAFEGUARD ITSELF AND ITS CHILDREN LABOR GOES ALL OUT FOR WORLD ORGANIZATION . . . FOR THE UNITED NATIONS. THE UN IS YOUNG. IT NEEDS LABOR'S UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT. TALK FOR IT! VOTE FOR IT! FIGHT FOR IT! DON'T LET RABBLE-ROUSERS AND PHONY ISOLATIONISTS FODD YOU! PEACE WITHIN . . . PEACE WITHOUT . . . AND LABOR'S FUTURE IS SECURE.

JOE WORKER



WILL YOU LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN?

WE DON'T LIKE CATHOLICS'

OR JEWS'

OR NEGROES'

OR FOR-
EIGNERS

WHITE
PROTESTANTS
ONLY

WHERE'S HOW TO STOP IT BEFORE IT STARTS....

GET OUT OF HERE, YOU
BLASTED BREEDERS OF
'HATE' YOU POOLED US
BEFORE, BUT LABOR I'LL
SEE TO IT YOU DON'T
FOOL US AGAIN!

SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS.

BAH! MY COUNTRY
WILL TAKE WHAT IT
NEEDS BY FORCE WHO
WILL STOP US?

THE
UNITED
NATIONS
WILL
STOP
YOU!

LABOR
BACKS
UN
TO
THE
HILT!

BULVANIA IS
PERSECUTING
RACIAL AND
RELIGIOUS
MINORITIES

SEND A UN
POLICE UNIT TO
BULVANIA AT
ONCE! EVERY
HUMAN BEING
HAS A RIGHT TO
FREEDOM AND
EQUALITY!

THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE

ONE FOR ALL!
ALL FOR ONE!
UNITED NATIONS!

The S T O R Y of L A B O R

3 0112 077849898